SUPERMAN

Post-CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS

Volume 58:

Political Asylum

The news reports had CONFIRMED my suspicions.

SLADE WILSON had spent a lifetime skirting international LAW without directly VIOLATING it.

In most circumstances, right and wrong are determined by the VICTOR...

...And though he played a DANGEROUS game, he always picked his sides WELL.

But after the Qurac fiasco, its aftermath in Germany, and the insanity of the GOTHAM affair, I feared it was only a matter of TIME--

--Before he carelessly, recklessly, went over the EDGE and plunged into Conrad's abyss...

He saw the METROPOLIS police waiting for him as his plane landed. He should NEVER have endangered civilians trying to escape.

But a flight stewardess named LUCY LANE was SHOT, police were WOUNDED, and Slade...

...Slade either forgot or ignored who LIVED in that fair city.

Deathstroke the Terminator had, at long last, been CAPTURED. And for the first time in our decades together, I knew there was NOTHING I could do to help him.
--From the Journal of W.R. Wintergreen Major, British Army, Ret.

TERMINATOR HUNT:

THE POWERS THAT BE!

MARV WOLFMAN
WRITER

STEVE ERWIN
PENCILLER

WILL BLYBERG -- INKER

PAT BROSSEAU, TODD KLEIN & ALBERT DeGUZMAN
LETTERERS

TOM McCRAW -- COLORIST

JONATHAN PETERSON -- ONE FRANTIC EDITOR!

STILL NOTHING TO *SAY*, DEATHSTROKE?

I DON'T *LIKE* HAVING TO BRING YOU IN. I'D HATE TO BELIEVE YOU'VE BECOME AN *ENEMY*.

ESPECIALLY SINCE WE JUST FINISHED FIGHTING ON THE *SAME* SIDE. *

WOW!

HERE THEY COME...

* IN THE NOW-CLASSIC "*PANIC IN THE SKY*" SAGA SEEN IN THE VARIOUS *SUPERMAN* TITLES-- JON.

OKAY, TERMINATOR-- I'M SURE *YOU* KNOW THE ROUTINE. KEEP HIM COVERED, BOYS.

AND SAFETIES *OFF!*

THANKS, SUPERMAN. MY MEN CAN TAKE HIM FROM HERE FOR *INTERROGATION*.

AND YOU *ARE*--?

EXIT

AGENT SMITH. C.I.A.

I BROUGHT HIM *THIS* FAR, I'D LIKE TO SEE HIM TO HIS *CELL*.

WITH HIS *ABILITIES*, HE MIGHT ELUDE YOUR NORMAL PRECAUTIONS...

...BUT HE *CAN'T* ESCAPE ME.

HMM, SO IT WOULD SEEM...

TRUST ME, WE'RE ON *TOP* OF THIS.

BUT WHY BRING HIM TO THE *FEDERAL BUILDING*?

I COULD JUST AS *EASILY* HAVE TAKEN HIM TO THE *CONFINEMENT FACILITY*.

ROUTINE. HE'S TO BE BOOKED HERE, STRIPPED AND SEARCHED.

TRANSPORT WILL BE HERE SHORTLY TO MOVE HIM ON THEN.

ALL RIGHT, THEN, I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR WORK. I HAVE TO GET BACK TO METROPOLIS FOR AN APPOINTMENT, ANYWAY.

GOOD DAY, SMITH.

CALL IT A REPORTER'S *SIXTH* SENSE, BUT SOMETHING SEEMS *WRONG* HERE.

SUPERMAN MAY BE TOO CONSPICUOUS, BUT AS *CLARK KENT*, I COULD LOOK INTO SMITH'S BACKGROUND BACK AT THE *DAILY PLANET*...

SO LONG, YOU BIG BOY SCOUT!

HE WAS *SUSPICIOUS*. I COULD TELL.

BAH! LET HIM COME *BACK*.

SOON, *WE'LL* BE READY FOR *HIM* TOO...

...SO *THIS* IS THE GREAT, HOT-SHOT DEATHSTROKE, EH?

DUH! THE *TRAITOR* DON'T LOOK SO *TOUGH* TO ME.

I-I'D STILL KEEP MY *DISTANCE*, CHUCK.

DIDN'T YOU HEAR HOW *MANY* OF THE BOYS HE TOOK *DOWN* IN QURAC ALONE?

AHH, HE AIN'T DANGEROUS...

HE'S *SCARED!* LOOKIT 'IM! AIN'T EVEN SAID A *WORD* SINCE HE GOT HERE.

YOU WANT ME TO SAY *SOMETHING*, SERGEANT?

ALL RIGHT, THEN. LET ME TELL YOU-- SUPERMAN AND I *REALLY* FOOLED YOU.

SEE, *I'M NOT DEATHSTROKE!*

YOU'RE *CRAZY!* I STUDIED THE *DOSSIER* AND--

HEY, *PRINCESS DI* COULD BE UNDER THIS MASK AND NOBODY'D EVER KNOW.

THIS SUIT'S GOT *PADDED MUSCLES* AND EVERYTHING!

WHA--? SAY, YOU THINK HE'S TELLING THE *TRUTH?*

OKAY, I'LL PLAY ALONG. SO WHO *ARE* YOU?

I... I'M *BLUE BEETLE.*

SUPES AND WILSON CAME UP WITH THIS SCHEME TO BUY SLADE TIME TO ESCAPE. MADE ME *CHANGE* COSTUMES.

I-I'M *SORRY.* I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER...

OH, *NO!* THE BOSS'LL *FLIP* OVER THIS!

COVER ME-- EASY ENOUGH TO *CHECK* OUT.

OKAY, PAL, LET'S *SEE* THAT FACE O'YOURS AND-- *HEY!*

OKAY, SO I *LIED.*

SO SUE ME!

LOOK OUT, HE-- *ARGHH!*

KLONK!

ACKK!

SHUT UP AND YOU WON'T GET HURT *BADLY.*

YOU SLOBS WERE JUST DOING YOUR *JOBS.*

THIS COULD ALL BE FOR *NOTHING* IF THEY DON'T CARRY THEIR OWN *SHACKLE* KEY.

C'MON, PAL-- *WHERE* THE HELL DO YOU *KEEP* IT?

WE'RE READY TO BEGIN THE *INTERROGATION.*

OPEN IT UP, JONESY.

CLAK!

SURE BEEN *QUIET* IN THERE...

...CONSIDERING WHO THIS GUY-- *HOLY!*

DAMN IT! NOT *AGAIN!!*

UP THERE! HE USED THE *VENT!*

WELL, DON'T JUST *STAND* THERE, YOU *DOLTS!*

SOUND THE ALARM!

DAMN.

SHE'S GOING TO KILL ME THIS TIME...

KRAM!

WE *INTERRUPT* THIS PROGRAM TO BRING YOU THIS *SPECIAL BULLETIN.*

THE INTERNATIONAL MERCENARY KNOWN AS DEATHSTROKE--

--HAS JUST *ESCAPED* FEDERAL CUSTODY.

WHILE DETAILS ARE SKETCHY, SOURCES REPORT SEVERAL GUARDS INJURED IN HIS ESCAPE, PERHAPS EVEN *KILLED.*

IF YOU SEE THIS MAN, ALERT THE AUTHORITIES IMMEDIATELY, BUT DO *NOT* ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE HIM YOURSELF. HE IS CONSIDERED *DANGEROUS.*

NEWS BREAK

WANTED

WHOOPTY-DO. I'M SOOOOO-SCARED.

AND THIS JUST IN--SEVERAL SUPER-POWERED CRIME-FIGHTERS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO *ASSIST* IN THIS HUNT.

WANTED

Lite

WE TAKE YOU NOW TO THE *U.N.*--

I'M SURE WE'LL *ALL* DO WHAT WE CAN...

YEAH, LIKE PLANKTON-BREATH HAS A CHANCE AGAINST SLADE'S GUNS.

WAIT--I'M NOW INFORMED *GREEN LANTERN* HAS ALSO JOINED THE SEARCH AS WELL...

GREEN-- KOFF GAGG THAT BUM?!?

HMMM, MAYBE I'D BETTER GET IN ON THIS.

...WE NOW RETURN YOU TO OUR NORMALLY SCHEDULED PROGRAM...

--HE'S TO THE THIRTY... THE TWENTY... HE COULD GO ALL THE WAY!!

Lite

GRELL GOLD

NAH! MAYBE LATER.

MEANWHILE...

...IT WHU-WHU-WASN'T EASY, TO PUH-PLACE THE ORDER, B-BUT I DID IT.

GAS

JNTFLOR

SAFE

FUH-FORTUNATELY I HAAAD B-BEEN WUH-WORKING ON SOME N-NEW EQUIPMENT ANYWUH-WAY.

F-FOR EXAMPLE, TH-THE SIDE-HOLSTER NOW LOCKS IN YOUR PISTOL, AND IS C-CODED TO YOUR THERMAL PALM PRINT.

ONLY Y-YOU CAN REMOVE IT.

NICE TOUCH. ERR, NO PUN INTENDED.

RUH-REAL PROBLEM WAS F-FINDING FORGE TO REPLACE THIS.

Y-YOU RELOCATED HIM AND FUH-FORGOT TO TELL ME WHERE.

B-BUT GIZMO HELPED ME F-FIND HIM.

FORGE SAID TO TELL YOU THE B-BALANCE IS A B-BIT OFF...

SORRY. RUH-RUSH JOB. WE'LL H-HAVE A *NEW* WUH-ONE IN A *MONTH*.

GUH-*GIZMO* MODIFIED THE *POWER STAFF* T-TOO.

C-COLLAPSED, IT FITS YUH-YOUR *HOLSTER*...

...BUT A-ALSO *TELESCOPES* FROM F-FOURTEEN INCHES TO A FUH-FORTY-EIGHT INCH *COMBAT* MODE.

FLINK!

NUH-NOTE IT IS *DISARMED* WHEN COLLAPSED. YOU C-CAN USE IT AS A *CLUB* WITHOUT D-DAMAGING ITS MECHANISM.

AND G-GIZMO FINALLY WUH-WORKED OUT THE BUGS ON YOUR *GLOVES*...

A-AMAZING, REALLY. THEY'RE *LINED* NOW W-WITH *MICROCHIP SENSOR RELAYS*--

--WHICH MUH-MUST BE IN *CONTACT* WITH THE *STAFF* TO F-FIRE.

TH-THAT WAY IT CAN'T BE USED *AGAINST* YOU AS THE *RAVAGER* WAS ABLE TO.

IT'S ALSO *FINGERPRINT* ACTIVATED F-FOR WHEN Y-YOU'RE *NOT* IN COSTUME.

AND THE STAFF NOW HAS M-MULTIPLE *SETTINGS*, FROM *S-STUN* TO *KILL*...

YOU ALL OUTDID YOURSELVES.

SEE THAT EVERYONE GETS A *BONUS* THIS MONTH.

BEAR, YOU SEE? I *TOLD* YOU HE WAS IN THERE.

HE DON'T LOOK SO TOUGH. I THINK WE *TAKE* HIM OURSELVES!

HEMP WON'T LIKE THAT, NINJATO...

"...AND YOU DON'T WANT TO MAKE HIM ANGRY WITH YOU."

THIS WAY!

HE WENT DOWN THIS ALLEY, BOSS...

SO WHERE IS HE!?

IF WE CATCH HIM, WE CAN TRADE 'IM TO THE COPS FOR AMNESTY. NOT TO MENTION A TON 'O BUCKS!

IF YOU SCREWED UP AGAIN, YOU'LL NEED MORE THAN THOSE BLADES TO STOP MY STARS.

SHURIKEN, YOU SAYIN' I'M LYIN'?

I'M TELLING YOU WHAT EVERY BODY ELSE ALREADY KNOWS: MY BROTHER'S A JERK!

ALL OF YOU SHUT UP! I CAN'T HEAR MYSELF THINK! NOW WHERE WAS I--?

OH, YEAH. FORGET AMNESTY! WE TAKE DOWN THIS GUY, AND WE'LL HAVE MILLION-DOLLAR REPS.

THIS TEAM'LL BE ABLE TO DO ANY-- HEY!

IT'S HIM!

THIS HAS GOT TO BE THE SORRIEST EXCUSE FOR A TEAM THAT I'VE SEEN IN YEARS.

KRAK

SLAM!?

ARGHH!

OOHHH!

KLANG!

HE TOOK OUT KITTY-KAT AND BEAR! STAY BACK! HE'S MINE!!

GET REAL.

WHOP!

AIEEE!

YOU CREEP!

IF YOU'VE HURT MY BROTHER, I'LL--

THAK THAK THAK

ANOTHER FAMILY TRAIT-- ALL TALK AND NO DELIVERY!

WOK!

UGHHH

FOUR DOWN IN AS MANY SECONDS. YER GOOD!

I'M BETTER.

K-CHAK!

WHO'RE YOU? THE POSTER BOY FOR STEROIDS?

NICE BODY... PINHEAD!

SHEESH. ANOTHER PATROL--ANOTHER VILLAIN TO SNARE. YOU'D THINK WE COULD GET TOGETHER JUST ONCE TO "SHOOT THE BREEZE" WITHOUT IT TURNING INTO SOMETHING!

NOT OUR LOT IN LIFE, HAL, THOUGH I--

WAIT! HMMM, GUNSHOTS. SOUTHWEST... ABOUT TWO MILES.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? I DIDN'T HEAR A THING.

"LIVING UNDERWATER TENDS TO MAKE ONE'S EARS RATHER SENSITIVE TO SOUND.

"TRUST ME--THAT'S WHERE WE'LL FIND SOME ACTION!"

BLAM!

HEY! QUIT MOVIN'!

HOW D'YA EXPECT ME TO BLAST YA IF YOU DON'T STAND STILL?

YOU CAN'T SERIOUSLY EXPECT A REAL ANSWER TO THAT, CAN YOU?

FWOOOW

CRASH!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! HE JUST KILLED THAT MAN!

NO--I SEE HIS CHEST MOVING.

HE'S JUST STUNNED.

YOU TWO! DON'T TELL ME THEY SENT OUT THE WHOLE DAMNED JUSTICE LEAGUE TO GET ME!

I DIDN'T THINK I RATED THAT HIGH.

CONDEMNED

DANGER

DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF.

WE JUST HAPPENED TO BE IN THE AREA.

CUT HIM OFF IN BACK!

PLAYING HARD TO GET?

SMASH!!

A MISTAKE, DEATHSTROKE. ALL YOU'RE DOING IS MAKING ME MAD.

MUST BE HARD FOR YOU TO SEE IN THE DARK, TOO.

'COURSE, TO ME, THIS IS DAYLIGHT COMPARED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA!

HMMM. I CAN HEAR YOU BREATHING TOO. YES, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE I--

AHHH, THERE YOU ARE!

HUH? WHERE'D THAT LIGHT--?

TOO DARK IN THERE TO SEE ANYTHING.

GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME TO SHINE A LITTLE LANTERN LIGHT ON THINGS!

I HEAR YOUR HEARTBEAT QUICKENING, DEATHSTROKE. YOU'RE BRACING YOURSELF FOR A FIGHT, AREN'T YOU?

JUST REMEMBER, MY ATLANTEAN REFLEXES ARE MUCH QUICKER THAN YOURS.

AND I'M FAR, FAR STRONGER THAN ANY HUMAN. YOURSELF INCLUDED...

NO NEED TO WORK UP A SWEAT, AQUAMAN.

DAMN!

I'VE GOT HIM.

LET'S HAVE A BETTER LOOK AT YOU IN THE LIGHT.

NOTHING TO SAY?

I'M DISAPPOINTED. ALL MY FOES BABBLE UP A STORM WHEN I CAPTURE THEM.

I SPOKE WITH BATMAN AND HE SAID YOU FOUGHT ALONGSIDE HIS EX-PARTNER TO SAVE THE WORLD.

TELL ME-- WHAT MAKES ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS GO BAD?

YOU SANCTIMONIOUS LITTLE JERK. YOU MUST HAVE DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR. HOW APPROPRIATE THAT YOU WEAR YOUR IDENTITY ON YOUR MIDDLE FINGER.

WH-WHAT?

WHY, YOU DIRTY SON-OF-A...

TROUBLE WITH YOU SELF-PROFESSED HEROES IS YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE YOU'RE IN IT FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE.

I THINK YOU JUST GET OFF PLAYING MR. SON-OF-GOD.

PEOPLE WANT ME TO DO A JOB. THEY PAY.

THAT'S CALLED REALITY.

OH, BY THE WAY, HERE'S ANOTHER DOSE OF IT.

WHUD!

WHEN YOU'RE IN THE MIDST OF BATTLE, DON'T LET DOWN YOUR GUARD!

KRAK!

UGHHH!

I'D READ UP ON LANTERN AND HIS FRIENDS AGES AGO. KNEW THEIR STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES. SUPPOSEDLY, THOSE RINGS WORK ON WILL POWER.

I HAD TO JAR HIM PRETTY SERIOUSLY TO MAKE THAT GREEN RESTRAINT VANISH.

THAT WAS THE EASY PART.

THE HARD PART WAS YET TO COME.

I COULD KEEP OUT OF AQUAMAN'S REACH FOR AWHILE, BUT NOT FOREVER.

TIME TO ANALYZE MY STRENGTHS AND HIS WEAKNESSES. FAST.

I WASN'T AS FAST AS I USED TO BE...

HE MOVED LIKE A CAT.

I WASN'T AS STRONG AS I ONCE WAS...

HE COULD PROBABLY HEFT A TRUCK.

FACE IT, SLADE-- YOU'RE IN TROUBLE!

UNLESS...

...I FIND A WAY TO TURN HIS STRENGTHS AGAINST HIM.

YES! HE SAID HIS EYES WERE USED TO SEEING IN THE BLACKNESS OF THE OCEAN FLOOR.

GOOD VISION. GOOD EYES.

SENSITIVE EYES.

HEY! IN HERE! BEHIND YOU!!

WHAT--?

FOOMPH!

ARGHH! MY EYES!

WHUD!

SORRY, AQUAMAN. BUT I HAVE TO--

BOUNCED RIGHT OFF! DAMN, THIS GUY'S STRONG!

EVEN BLINDED HE LASHED OUT.

HE WAS NO MAN'S FOOL.

ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS CONNECT WITH ONE PUNCH AND I'D BE OUT.

I KEPT OUT OF HIS RANGE.

OR AT LEAST TRIED TO!

THERE! GOT YOU! CAN'T SEE YOU, BUT I CAN STILL HEAR YOU COMING A MILE AWAY.

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME, WILSON.

UGHH!

SMASH!

MY VISION'S CLEARING UP, DEATHSTROKE.

SEEMS YOUR DELAYING TACTIC DIDN'T WORK.

HE WAS RIGHT. ONLY HAD ONE OTHER HOPE...

SEEMS WHAT'S DARK FOR THE GOOSE IS PITCH BLACK FOR THE GANDER.

FWOOM!

NICE TRY. MISSED ME. I--

HEY!

I WASN'T AIMING AT YOU.

ONLY THING HOLDING THIS HELLHOLE UP IS DIRT.

I WAS JUST SHAKING SOME LOOSE!

BA-WHOOOM!!

KRIK

KRAK

CREAKK

DANG! HE'S GONE!

HMM--A NOBLE OPPONENT, THIS MAN.

HE CERTAINLY HELD HIS OWN AGAINST US!

YEAH, WELL I WANT A REMATCH. "NOBLE" OR NOT, I'D LIKE TO SEE HOW HE TAKES A KICK IN THE OL' TESTOSTERONE MACHINE!

I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE, HAL.

"HE FOUGHT LIKE A MAN POSSESSED. I KNOW HE'S WANTED...

"...BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS ISN'T AS CUT AND DRIED AS WE WERE LED TO BELIEVE."

AND SURE ENOUGH...

SMITH, DO YOU KNOW WHY I SUMMONED YOU HERE?

I--I DO, MADEMOISELLE.

I AM NOT DESERVING OF MERCY.

NO, YOU ARE NOT. YOU PERMITTED HIM TO ESCAPE US AGAIN.

IT--IT WASN'T MY FAULT! HE *TRICKED*--

SILENCE! YOU WERE IN CHARGE. THERE CAN BE NO *EXCUSES*.

HOWEVER, YOUR PLACEMENT IN THE *CIA* IS TOO *USEFUL* TO WASTE. IT WOULD TAKE TOO *LONG* TO *REPLACE* YOU. YOU ARE *DISMISSED*...

...FOR *NOW*.

THANK YOU, MADEMOISELLE. I WILL NOT *FAIL* YOU AGAIN.

ON *THAT* WE CAN BOTH AGREE.

BUT I *WANT* SLADE WILSON.

FOR ONCE WE HAVE *HIM*--

OH, YESSS. THE *POSSIBILITIES*...

FINALLY STOPPED RUNNING ABOUT SIX MILES SOUTH.

NO SIGN OF THEM FOLLOWING ME.

STILL, MY NECK HAIRS *BRISTLED* BENEATH MY COWL.

WHY DO I GET THE FEELING--

OOPHF!

WHOOOOOSHAAAAAH

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT--?

C'MON

WILSON

WHAM!

DON'T

YOU

REMEMBER

ME?

WILSON?

HMMM, HE'S AWFUL STILL. FUNNY, I DIDN'T THINK HE HIT THE POLE *THAT* HARD.

YEAGHH!

NOPE. GUESS HE DIDN'T.

COME OFF IT YOU REALLY DIDN'T THINK

YOU COULD MOVE FASTER. THAN ME!

MANOMAN, MY HAND FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN PUMMELING A BRICK WALL.

WEE-OOO WEE-

WHAT'S HIS UNIFORM MADE OF--AHH!

ONCE AGAIN NEW YORK'S FINEST ARRIVES JUST IN TIME TO CON-GRATULATE ME!

OOO WEE-OO

NO NEED TO RUN, GENTLEMEN. HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

DISPATCH, I WANT AN ARMORED AND A SWAT TEAM SENT OVER TO--

FLASH! I JUST HEARD THE NEWS ON MY RADIO!

IT'S TRUE? YOU CAUGHT HIM?

SEEING'S BELIEVING, FRIEND.

POLICE

POLICE

EXCELLENT! YOU MEN! STAND BACK! I'LL TAKE CARE OF WILSON FROM HERE!

RELAX, PAL. IT DON'T TAKE A FED TO CUFF A CROOK.

YOU LISTEN TO ME. THAT MAN'S DANGEROUS--

BELIEVE IT, SMITH.

UUGHH!

KUMP!

AGHHH!

YOU BLUNDERING FOOLS! HE'S GETTING AWAY!

FREEZE! STOP OR WE'LL SHOOT!

MORONS! HE'S NOT GOING TO STOP BECAUSE YOU TELL HIM TO! DAMMIT, SHOOT HIM!!

NO.

LET ME HANDLE HIM.

HE'S MORE MY KIND OF-- OOF!

WHOA!

FWOOM!

HOLY CRAP!

NOW HE'S SHOT THE FLASH! TAKE 'IM DOWN!!

NO!

I'M OKAY...

HE JUST STUNNED--

--MEEEEEEYAGHHH!

WHUMP!

FLASH--?

DAMMIT, NO! NOT AGAIN!!

UUNHHH

SPREAD OUT! FIND HIM!

HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR.

FLASH IS JUST WINDED...

WILSON! THIS ISN'T THE END OF IT, YOU HEAR ME?!

I'LL GET YOU IF IT'S THE LAST THING I EVER DO!!

...AND SO, REPEATING OUR TOP STORY TONIGHT, ONCE AGAIN THE MERCENARY KNOWN AS DEATHSTROKE HAS ELUDED THE NEW YORK POLICE DRAGNET.

ALTHOUGH TWO MEMBERS OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WERE TREATED FOR ONLY MINOR INJURIES, THE QUESTION ON THE LIPS OF LAW OFFICIALS EVERYWHERE IS--

--WHO, IF ANYONE, CAN STOP THIS KILLING MACHINE?

THREE GUESSES!

NEXT MONTH:

BE HERE FOR CHAPTER ONE OF THE TITANS UNIVERSE EXPLOSION CALLED "TOTAL CHAOS!"

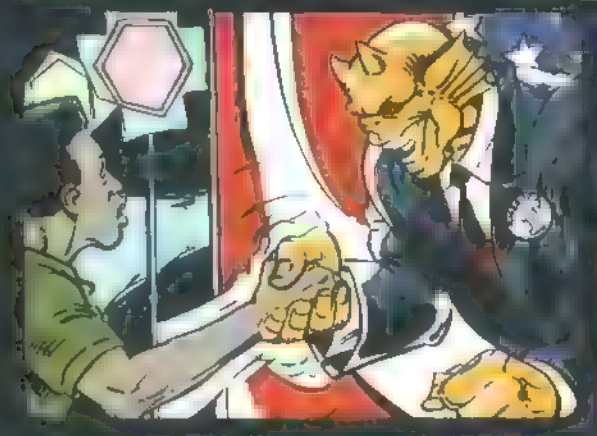
POLITICAL ASYLUM
CHAPTER 2
"ETRIGAN, HE'S OUR MAN, IF HE CAN'T DO IT, NO ONE CAN!"
A CARING SOUL HAS HEARD YOUR CRIES OF ANGRY DISCONTENT.
WHEN YOUR COUNTRY'S GONE TO HELL YOU NEED A DEMON PRESIDENT!
TAKE BACK AMERICA AND GIVE IT TO ME!
DEMON '92

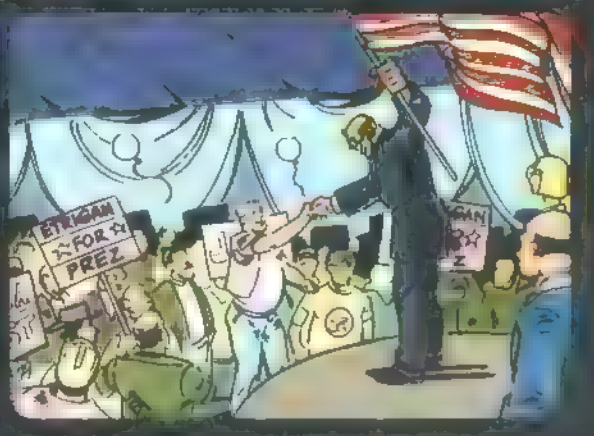
DWAYNE McDUFFIE — SCRIPT
VAL SEMEIKS — PENCILLER
BOB SMITH ET DENIS RODIER — INKERS
ROBBIE BUSCH — COLORIST
TODD KLEIN — LETTERER
DAN RASPLER — EDITOR
JACK KIRBY — CREATOR

THE DEMON 27 September 1992 Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE DEMON, DC Comics Subscriptions, PO Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510 Annual subscription rate $18.00 Canadian subscribers must add $8.00 for postage and GST GST # is R125921072 All other foreign countries must add $12.00 for postage U.S. funds only Copyright © 1992 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved All characters featured in this issue the distinctive likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. For advertising space contact Tom Ballou, (212) 636-5880. Printed on recyclable paper Printed in Canada.
DC Comics Inc. A Warner Bros. Inc. Company

"...AND SO, IN AN UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE IN RECESSION-PLAGUED DETROIT, AN UNUSUAL NEW CANDIDATE ANNOUNCED HIS RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

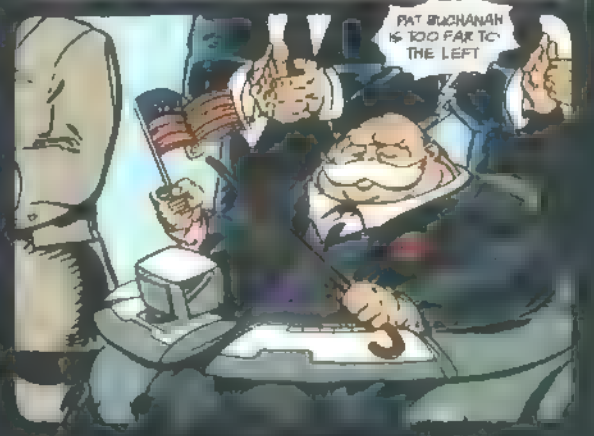
"THE CANDIDATE, AN ALLEGED DEMON FROM HELL, IS RUNNING AS A REPUBLICAN. ETRIGAN CITES BOTH DISAPPOINTMENT WITH CURRENT POLICIES AND A 'DESIRE FOR IMMENSE PERSONAL POWER' AS HIS MOTIVATIONS



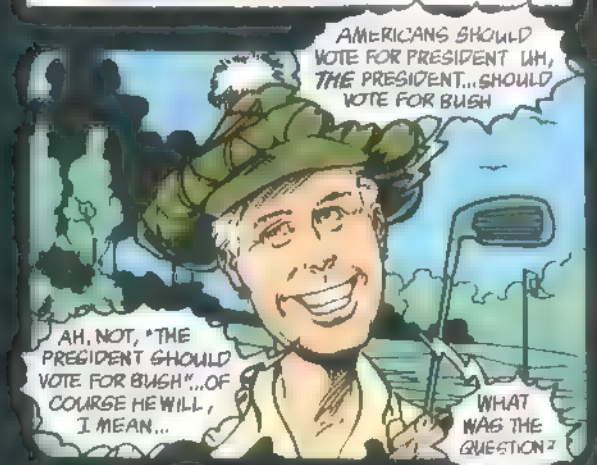


"AS HE OUTLINED HIS ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN ETRIGAN VEHEMENTLY DENIED PUBLISHED REPORTS THAT HIS CAMPAIGN IS AN ELABORATE HOAX

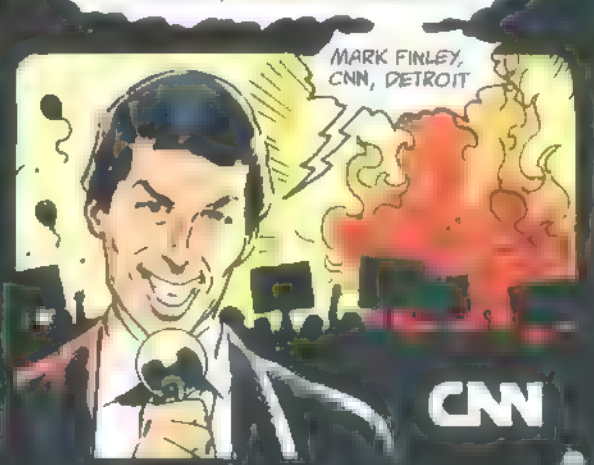
"BUT THE SERIOUSNESS OF ETRIGAN'S CAMPAIGN IS UNDERSCORED BY HIS ENDORSEMENT FROM DARRIN W. DINGLE III, FOUNDER OF THE RIGHT-WING AMERICAN LEGACY INSTITUTE."

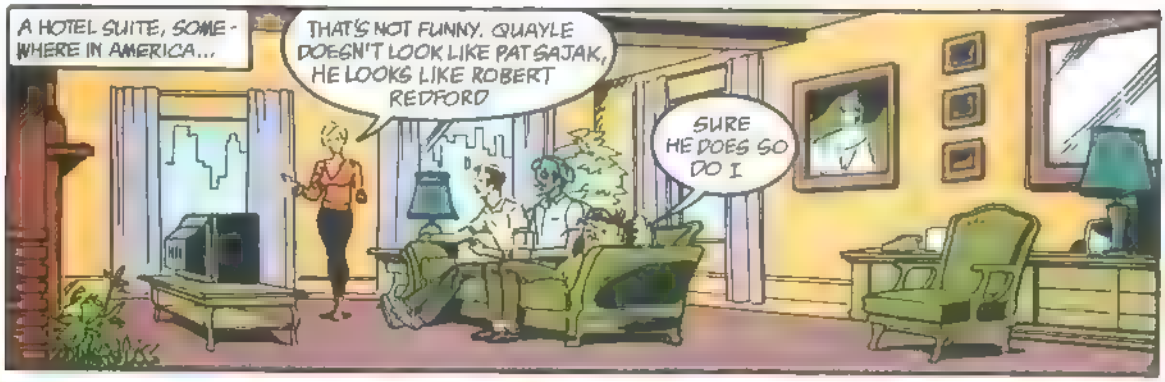


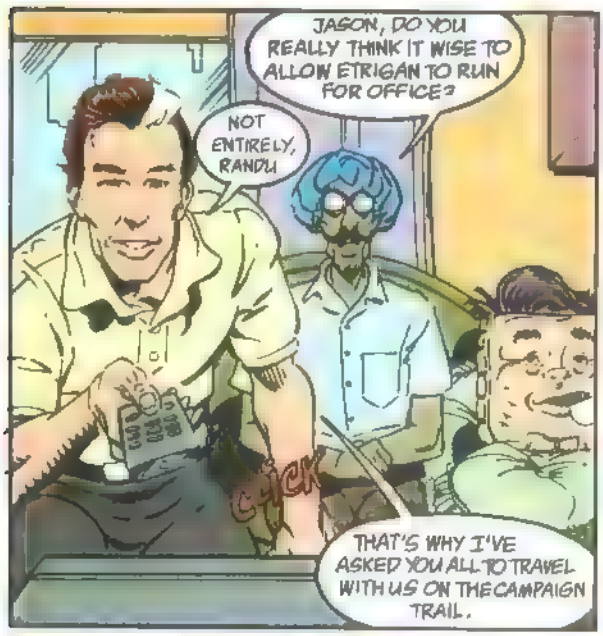
"ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT BUSH HAS DECLINED TO COMMENT ON ETRIGAN'S CANDIDACY, VICE-PRESIDENT QUAYLE HAD THIS TO SAY..."


AMERICANS SHOULD VOTE FOR PRESIDENT UH, THE PRESIDENT...SHOULD VOTE FOR BUSH
AH, NOT, "THE PREGIDENT SHOULD VOTE FOR BUSH"...OF COURSE HE WILL, I MEAN...
WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?

RESPONDING TO THE VICE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS, ETRIGAN SAID, "I WATCH WHEEL OF FORTUNE WHENEVER I CAN WHEN IT COMES TO PAT SAJAK, THERE'S NO BIGGER FAN."

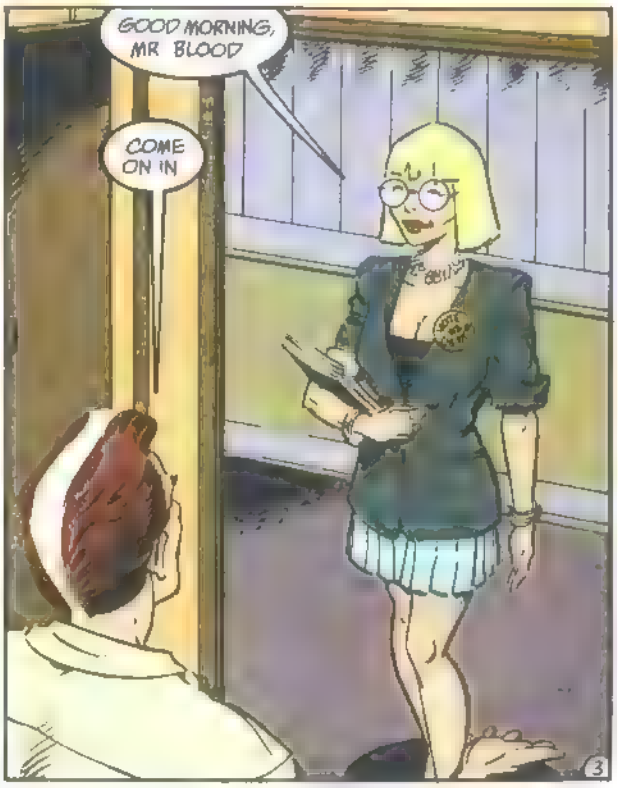



A HOTEL SUITE, SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA...
THAT'S NOT FUNNY. QUAYLE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE PAT SAJAK, HE LOOKS LIKE ROBERT REDFORD
SURE HE DOES SO DO I


JASON, DO YOU REALLY THINK IT WISE TO ALLOW ETRIGAN TO RUN FOR OFFICE?
NOT ENTIRELY, RANDU
THAT'S WHY I'VE ASKED YOU ALL TO TRAVEL WITH US ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL.

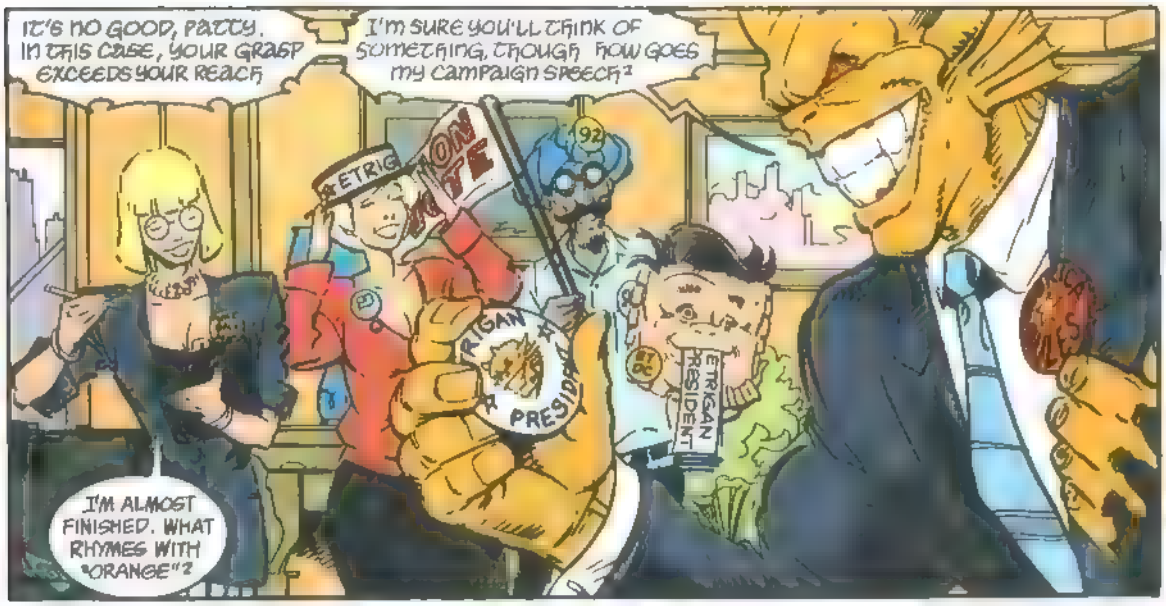
HE'S GOT NO CHANCE OF WINNING, BUT WE'VE AGREED TO COOPERATE AND I'M GOING TO HOLD UP MY END OF THE BARGAIN
I DON'T SEE A PROBLEM AS LONG AS THE CAMPAIGN HOLDS ETRIGAN'S INTEREST, IT'LL KEEP HIM OUT OF TROUBLE

OR SO THE THEORY GOES
NOK NOK
I'LL GET IT


GOOD MORNING, MR BLOOD
COME ON IN

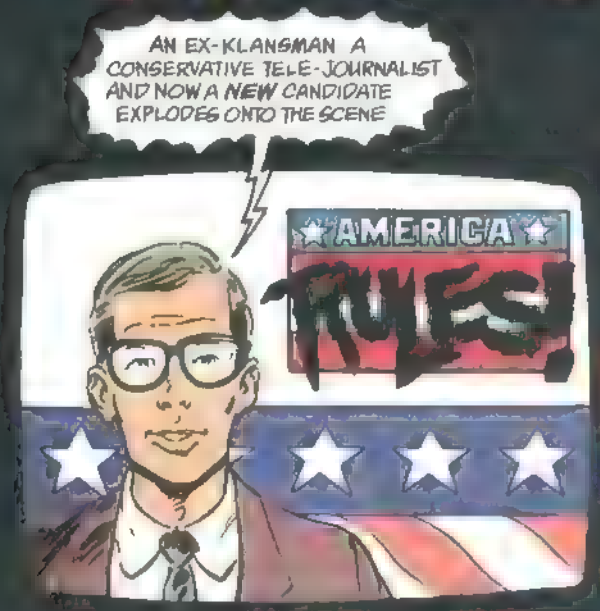
EVERYBODY? I WANT YOU TO MEET ETRIGAN'S HEADSPEECH WRITER, PATTY NONAGE
HI!
ENCHANTÉ
I'LL GO GET THE CANDIDATE. HAVE A SEAT.
I THINK THERE'S SOME COKE IN THE FRIDGE. YOU WANT SOME?
THANK YOU, I--
NO! NO! NO! GET UP! GET UP!
MMMMPH!
I THINK YOU HAVE SAT UPON MY FRIEND!
HARRY! ARE YOU OKAY?
YIIII!
IF YOU DO THAT AGAIN I'LL GIVE YOU TWENTY BUCKS.
HE'S FINE...
I'M SO SORRY.
I'M A MULTIPLE AMPUTEE...
YOU'RE A SEAT CUSHION!
OKAY, YOU CAUGHT ME LYING. WANT TO GO STEADY?
4

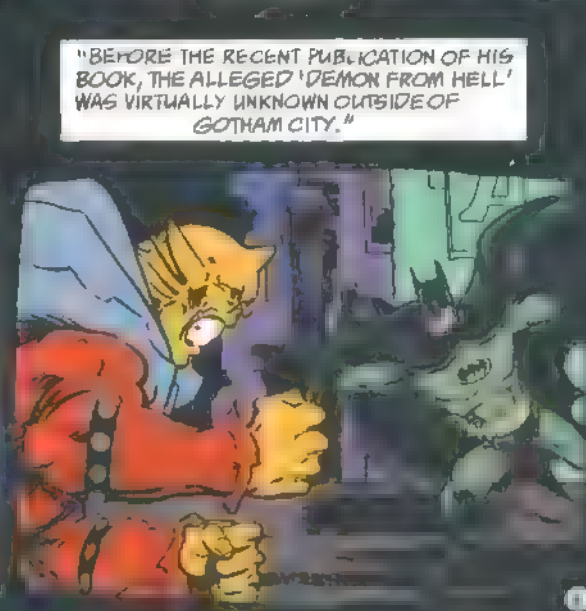
WHILE, IN THE NEXT ROOM...
ALL RIGHT, ETRIGAN. A DEAL'S A DEAL, BUT YOU'D BETTER BEHAVE...
GONE, GONE, OH FORM OF MAN ARISE THE DEMON, ETRIGAN!
FREED again BY MYSTIC CHANT, THE DAY'S CAMPAIGN DRAWS NIGH--
--I FOUND MY SHIRT, I FOUND MY PANTS. NOW WHERE'D I PUT THAT TIE?
GOOD MORNING, ETRIGAN! I'M WORKING ON NEW CAMPAIGN SLOGANS. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF: "ETRIGAN - HE CARES"?
ETRIGAN FOR PRESIDENT
NO, SERIOUSLY WHAT DID YOU COME UP WITH?
6

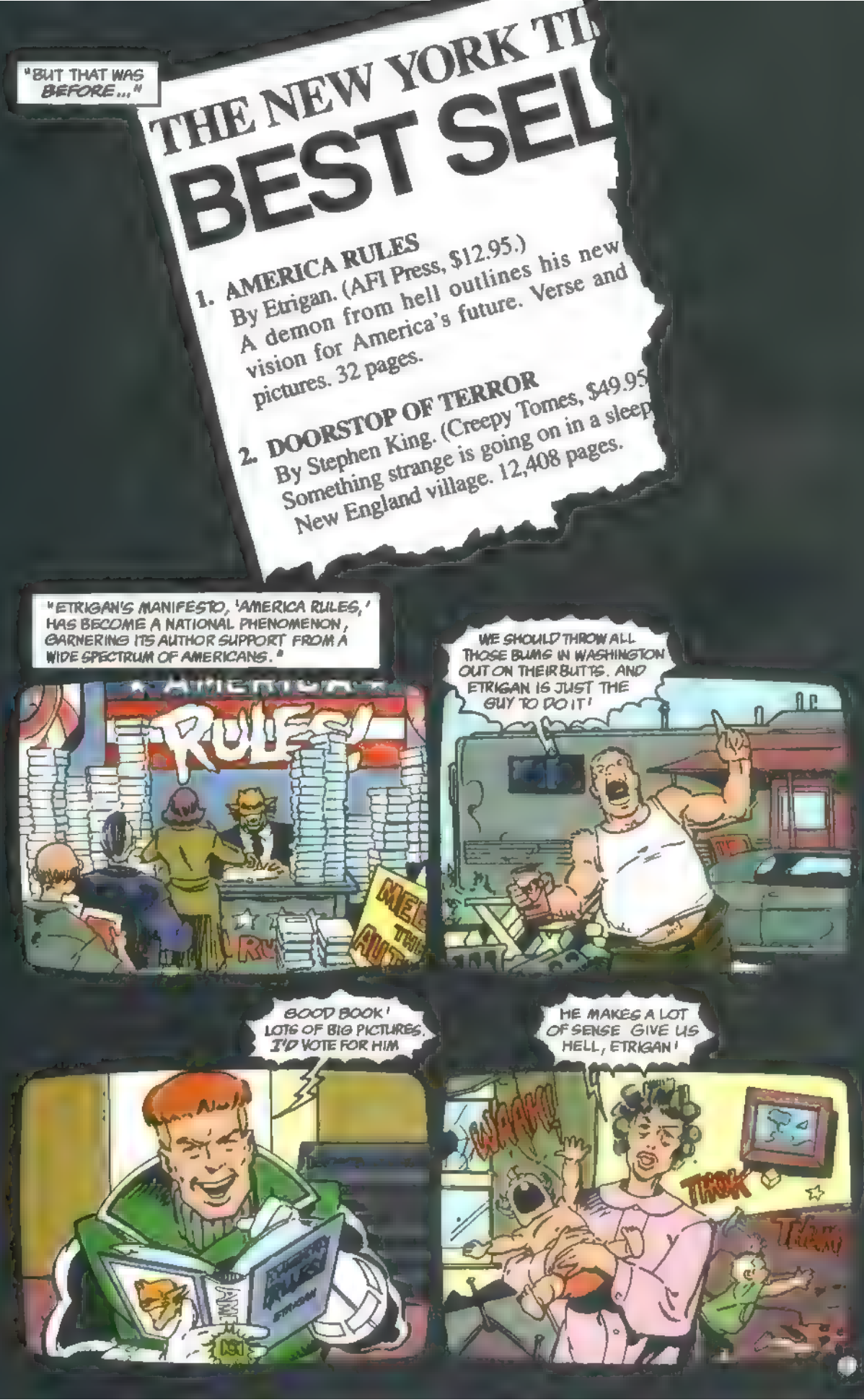

IT'S NO GOOD, PATTY. IN THIS CASE, YOUR GRASP EXCEEDS YOUR REACH
I'M SURE YOU'LL THINK OF SOMETHING, THOUGH. HOW GOES MY CAMPAIGN SPEECH?
I'M ALMOST FINISHED. WHAT RHYMES WITH "ORANGE"?

FOR RHYMING DEMONS NOTHING VEXES QUITE AS MUCH AS "ORANGE." IT'S NOT EXACT, BUT IN A PINCH, I OFTEN OPT FOR "WHORE BINGE."
THAT DOESN'T REALLY WORK IN CONTEXT...
HOW ABOUT "DOOR HINGE"?

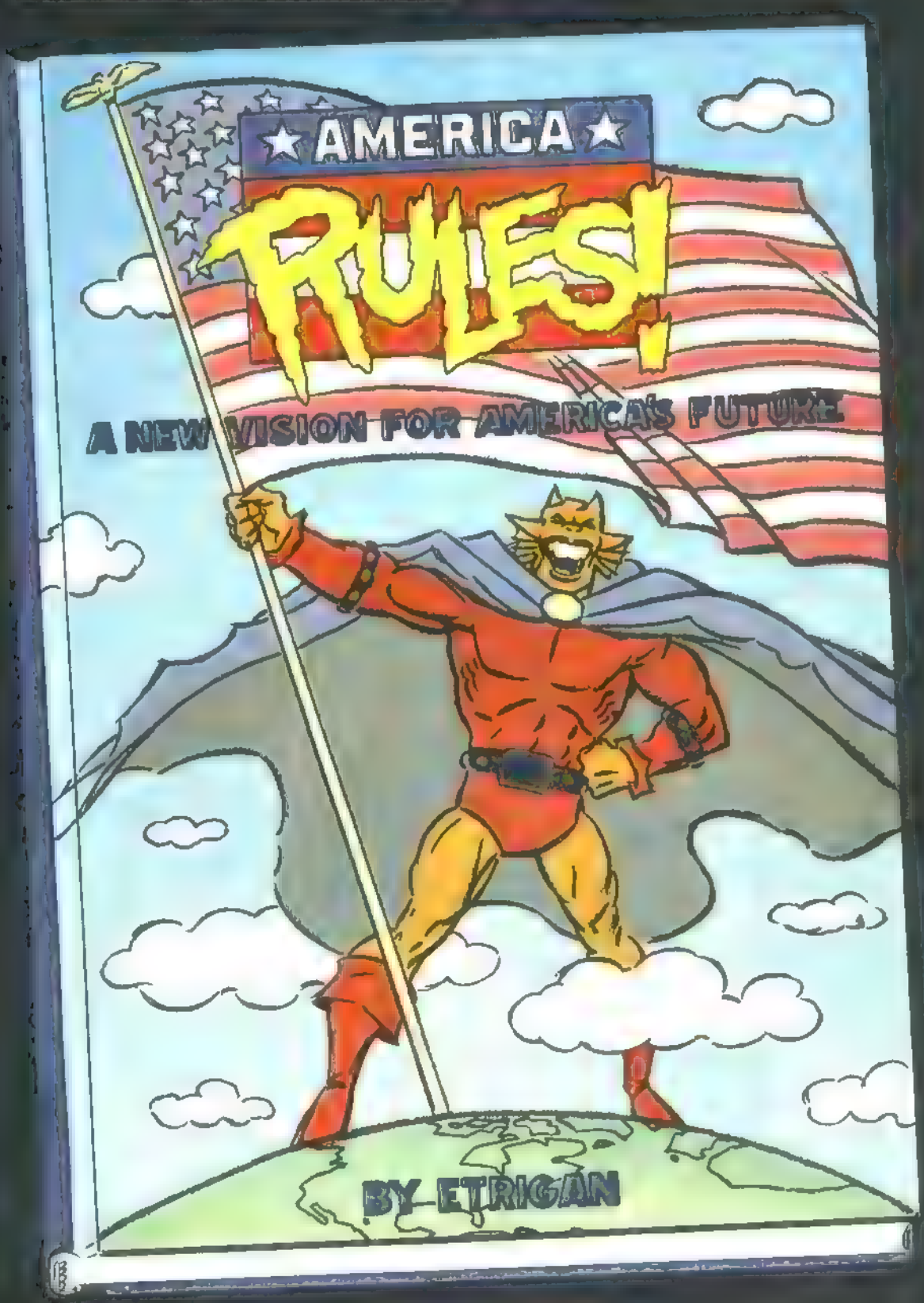
LITTLE YELLOW DIFFERENT THESE ARE THE WORDS BEING UGED TO DESCRIBE THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL OF PRESIDEN TIAL CANDIDATES.
IN WASHINGTON, WITH SOME BACKGROUND ON ETRIGAN'S QUIXOTIC QUEST FOR THE WHITE HOUSE, IS OUR MAN JACK SMITH.


AN EX-KLANSMAN A CONSERVATIVE TELE-JOURNALIST AND NOW A NEW CANDIDATE EXPLODES ONTO THE SCENE
AMERICA RULES!

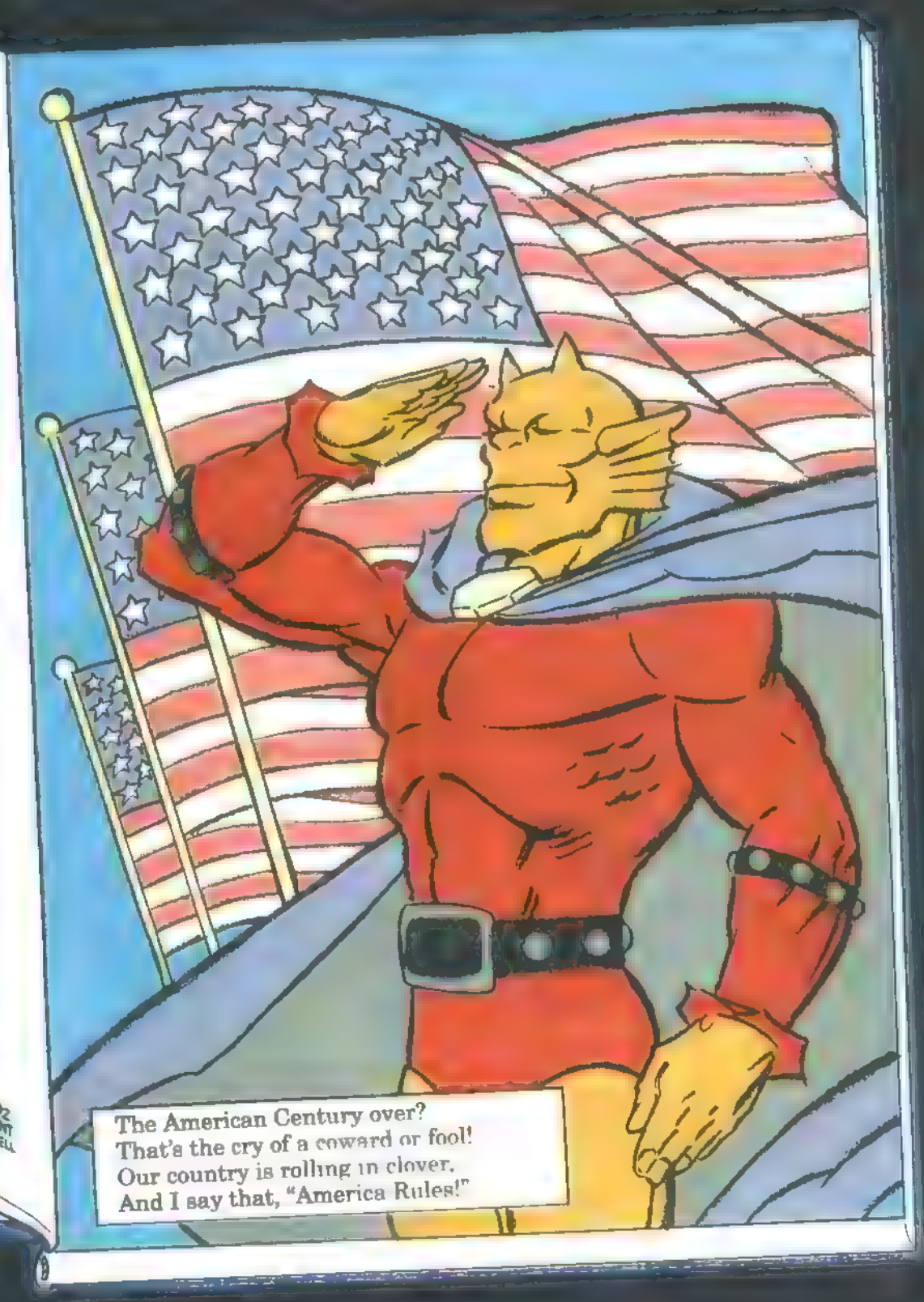

"BEFORE THE RECENT PUBLICATION OF HIS BOOK, THE ALLEGED 'DEMON FROM HELL' WAS VIRTUALLY UNKNOWN OUTSIDE OF GOTHAM CITY."


"BUT THAT WAS BEFORE..."
THE NEW YORK TI
BEST SEL
1. AMERICA RULES
By Etrigan. (AFI Press, $12.95.)
A demon from hell outlines his new
vision for America's future. Verse and
pictures. 32 pages.
2. DOORSTOP OF TERROR
By Stephen King. (Creepy Tomes, $49.95
Something strange is going on in a sleep
New England village. 12,408 pages.
"ETRIGAN'S MANIFESTO, 'AMERICA RULES,' HAS BECOME A NATIONAL PHENOMENON, GARNERING ITS AUTHOR SUPPORT FROM A WIDE SPECTRUM OF AMERICANS."
RULES!
WE SHOULD THROW ALL THOSE BUMS IN WASHINGTON OUT ON THEIR BUTTS. AND ETRIGAN IS JUST THE GUY TO DO IT!
GOOD BOOK! LOTS OF BIG PICTURES. I'D VOTE FOR HIM
HE MAKES A LOT OF SENSE GIVE US HELL, ETRIGAN!
WHAM!
THUNK
THUNK

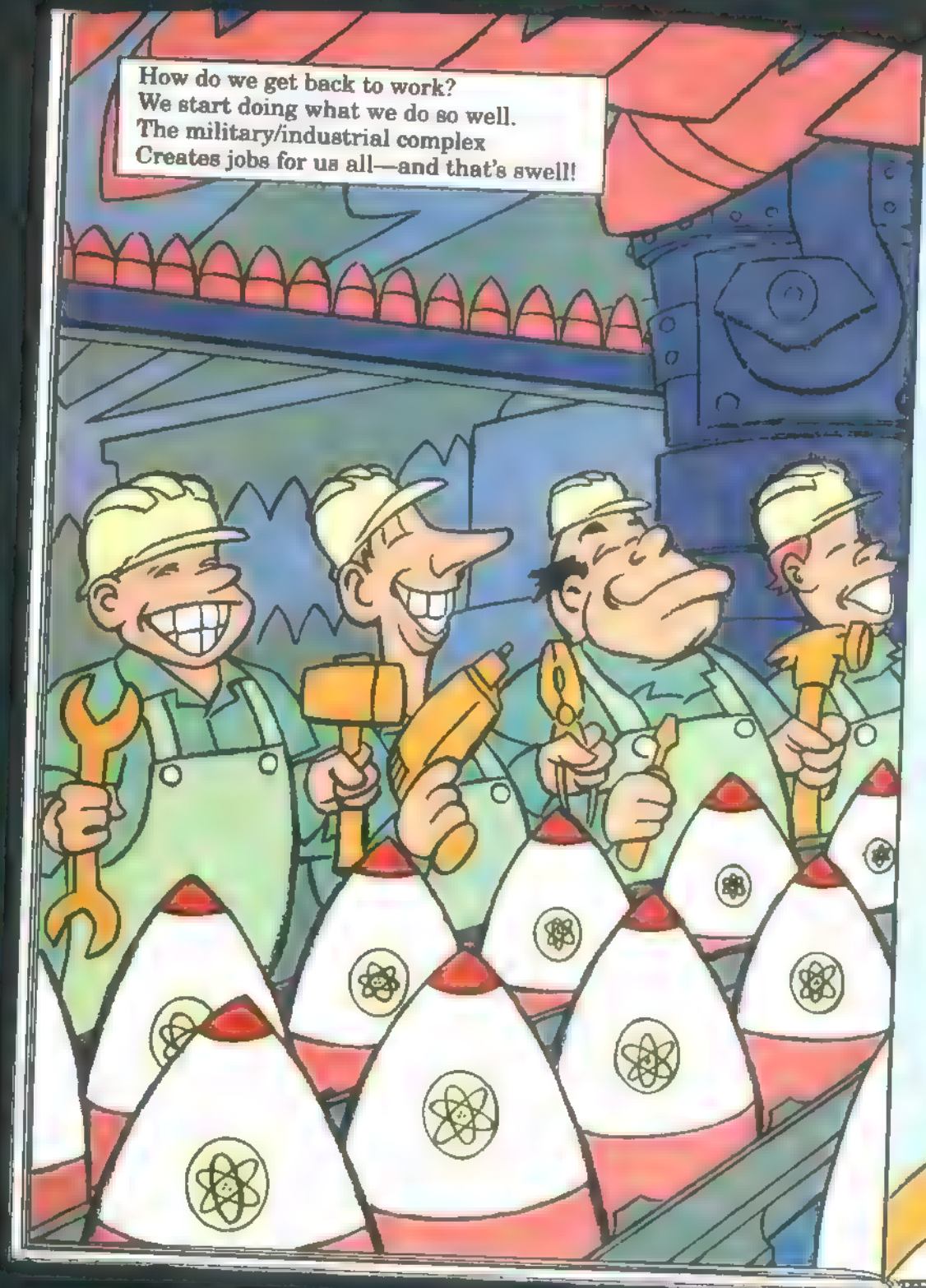
Excerpts from "America Rules!"...



Excerpts from "America Rules!"...



Excerpts from "America Rules!"...

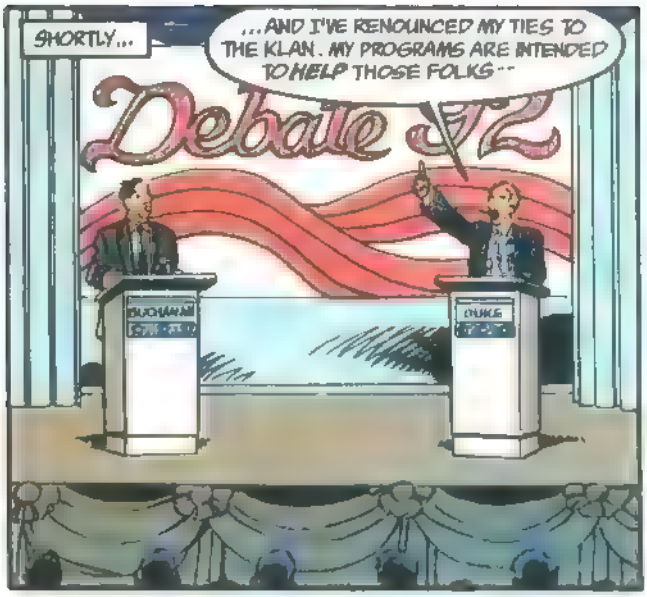

How do we get back to work?
We start doing what we do so well.
The military/industrial complex
Creates jobs for us all—and that's swell!

Excerpts from "America Rules!"...

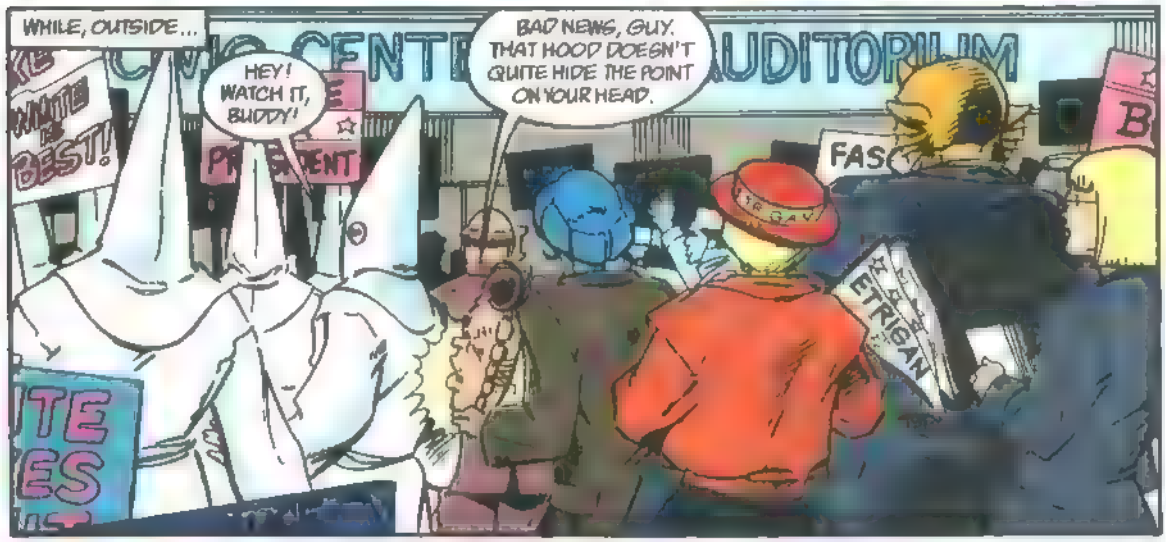
Our economy's weak, it's a scandal.
A stain on the flag we unfurl.
We'll wipe out the deficit
That makes such a mess of it
When our armies do conquer the world!
THE WORLD
$

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU INTEND TO FORCE THE REST OF THE WORLD TO PAY FOR AMERICA'S INFLATED LIFESTYLE.
THAT'S FRANKLY VERY APPEALING, BUT ISN'T YOUR PLAN TOO SIMPLE?
SPARE ME, IF YOU WILL, YOUR CHILDISH CONFUSIONS. FOR COMPLEX PROBLEMS DO HAVE SIMPLE SOLUTIONS.
MR. ETRIGAN
--ISN'T IT TRUE THAT "CONFUSIONS" AND "SOLUTIONS" DON'T RHYME? IN FACT, "CONFUSIONS" ISN'T EVEN A WORD! HOW DO YOU RESPOND?
FWOOSH!
AIEEEEE!
FOR
SIGH!
12

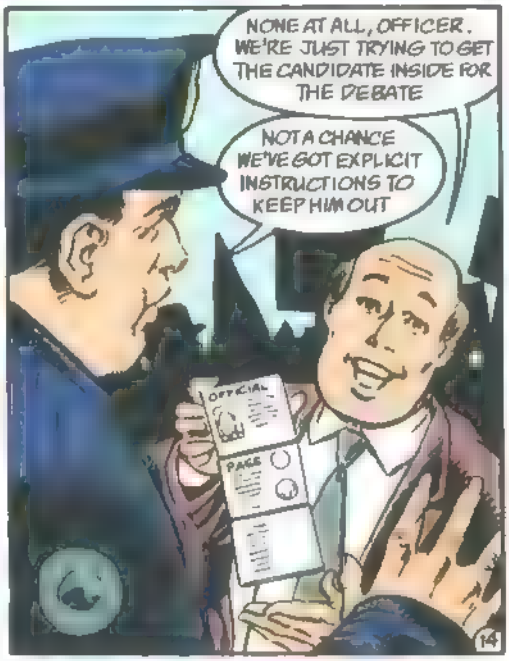
LOOK, ETRIGAN, IF YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO LEARN TO CONTROL YOUR TEMPER
THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
HOW DARE THIS "Sam Donaldson" SPEAK THUS TO ME? IF I'D HAD MY WAY, A BURNT CORPSE HE'D NOW BE!
CALM DOWN, MIKE. I THINK THE DAMAGE CAN BE CONTAINED. DONALDSON'S BURNS WEREN'T THAT SERIOUS...
GEEZ, TED! THAT'S NOT THE POINT
TAC CHEMICA. WE'RE REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT NAPA... M THING
HEY! ETRIGAN JUST SHOT UP 16 POINTS IN THE POLLS!
YOU SOUND SURPRISED! BELIEVE YOUR EYES!
SIXTEEN POINTS! WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?
THAT DEPENDS ETRIGAN? HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT CRASHING A DEBATE?
HA HA HA HA HA HA
13


SHORTLY...
...AND I'VE RENOUNCED MY TIES TO THE KLAN. MY PROGRAMS ARE INTENDED TO HELP THOSE FOLKS--
Debate '92
BUCHANAN
DUKE

--OH, YEAH? WELL, SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE BLACKS!
WHO ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS.


WHILE, OUTSIDE...
HEY! WATCH IT, BUDDY!
BAD NEWS, GUY. THAT HOOD DOESN'T QUITE HIDE THE POINT ON YOUR HEAD.
AUDITORIUM
FAS
ETRIEAN

YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT, I'M AN IMPERIAL WIZARD!
I CAN TELL. NICE OUTFIT ARE THOSE CONTOUR SHEETS?
DUKE FOR PRESIDENT
IS THERE A PROBLEM HERE?


NONE AT ALL, OFFICER. WE'RE JUST TRYING TO GET THE CANDIDATE INSIDE FOR THE DEBATE
NOT A CHANCE WE'VE GOT EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS TO KEEP HIM OUT
OFFICIAL
PASS

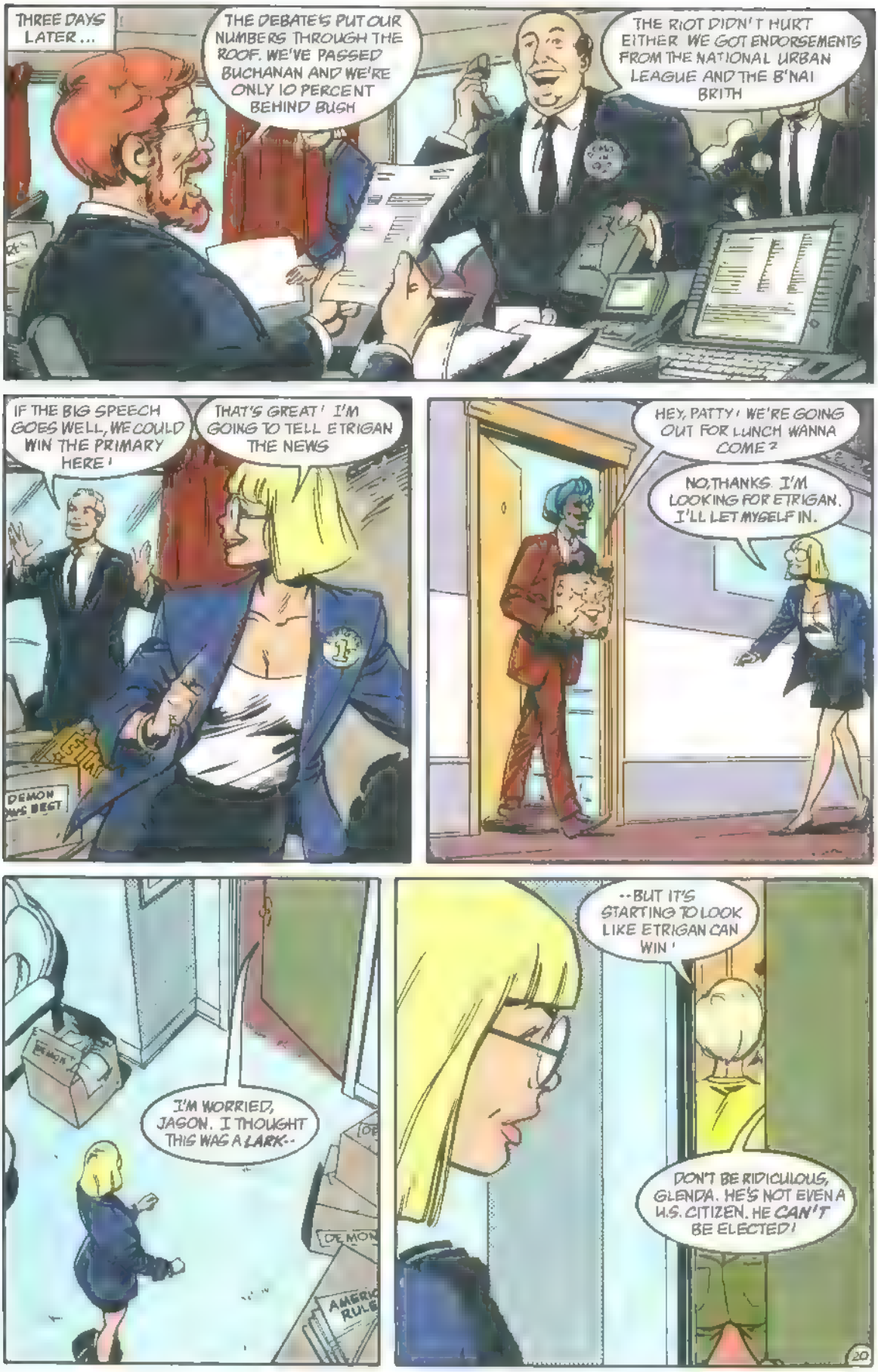
KEEP OUT THE TRUTH? KEEP OUT THE HOPE? KEEP OUT THE BREATH OF FRESH AIR?--
--THAT'S BAD MANNERS, YOUTH IT'S TOO BAD YOU CAN'T COPE, FOR I'D PUMMEL YOU, WERE IT BUT FAIR!
RRIIIIP!
HOLD YOUR FIRE! YOU MIGHT HIT THE CROWD!
PARDON ME, SIRS, I'VE NO WISH TO OFFEND, BUT YOU'RE BLOCKING MY WAY AND I MUST NEEDS ATTEND!
HOLD HIM!
I CAN'T! HE'S TOO STRONG!
DO NOT

WHOA!
HELP!
YIPE!
YOU'RE FOOLS TO FIGHT DEMOCRACY IN THE HOME OF THE BRAVE AND THE LAND OF THE FREE!
HEY! THAT GUY IS BEATING ON COPS!
HE'S DISOBEYING AUTHORITY!
YEAH, AND DID YOU NOTICE? HE'S YELLOW!
GET HIM, BUBBA!
YEE-HAH!
KKK
POW
TAKE BACK AMERICA
WE MUST HAVE ORDER! ATTACK!
YOU'LL ALL SOON DISCOVER IN PAINFUL HINDSIGHT...
CHOOM!
...THAT THE GOOD GUY FROM HELL NEVER RUNS FROM A FIGHT!
16

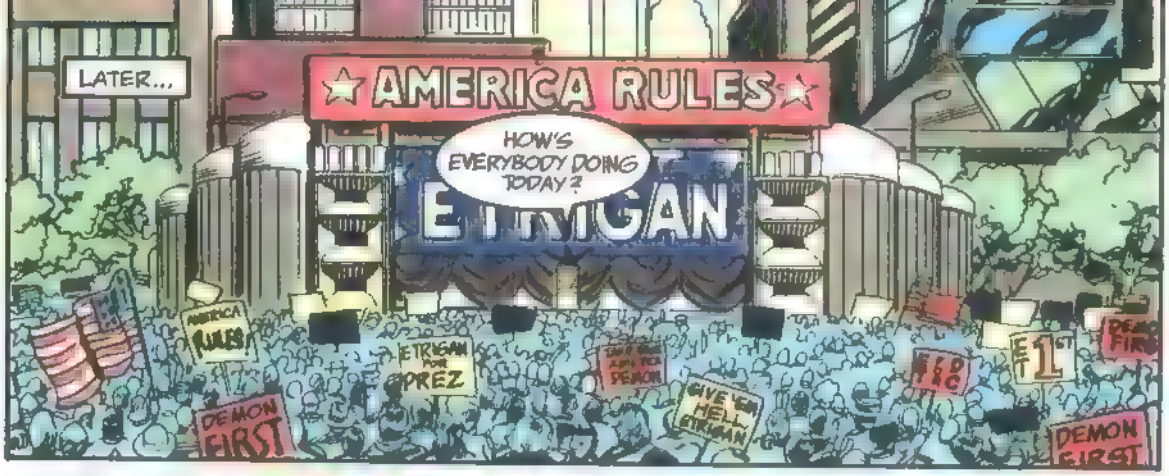
WHOOM!
SUCH LIMITED VIEWS I DISMISS OUT OF HAND--YOU'VE NO MORAL GROUND UPON WHICH TO STAND!
AND WITH EASE I HAVE ENDED THIS RIOT, TO RESTORE THIS SCENE'S GOOD PEACE AND QUIET.
UUNH--
PARK
LIKE
WHAT'S THIS? AN ATTACK FROM THE REAR!
VROOM!
THIS COULD BE EFFECTIVE, IF--
KRUNCH!
KKK
PARK
BASH!

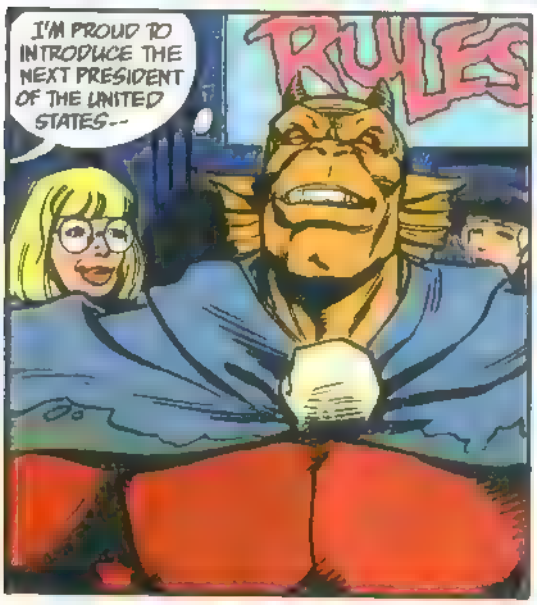
KRRUMMB-
BOOM
WE GOT HIM!
IT JUST SHOWS WHAT WE CAN ACCOMPLISH WHEN WE PUT ASIDE OUR DIFFERENCES AND HATE TOGETHER
CRUMMBLE
KLINK
KA-LINK
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY--
--TURNABOUT IS FAIR PLAY!
UH-OH...

LATER, INSIDE...
...ACTUALLY, NOW THAT WE'VE HAD THIS CHANCE TO CHAT, YOU MAKE A LOT OF SENSE.
mutual admiration can wait--
- FOR ETRIGAN'S come TO DEBATE!
WHAT IS HAPPENING? WHY IS EVERYONE CLAPPING?
ETRIGAN'S WINNING THE DEBATE!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
ALL RIGHT! I'M WRONG! MY POLICIES ARE STUPID! WILL YOU LET ME GO NOW?
UNCLE! UNCLE!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP


THREE DAYS LATER...
THE DEBATE'S PUT OUR NUMBERS THROUGH THE ROOF. WE'VE PASSED BUCHANAN AND WE'RE ONLY 10 PERCENT BEHIND BUSH
THE RIOT DIDN'T HURT EITHER. WE GOT ENDORSEMENTS FROM THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE AND THE B'NAI BRITH
IF THE BIG SPEECH GOES WELL, WE COULD WIN THE PRIMARY HERE!
THAT'S GREAT! I'M GOING TO TELL ETRIGAN THE NEWS
DEMON WAS BEST
HEY, PATTY! WE'RE GOING OUT FOR LUNCH WANNA COME?
NO, THANKS. I'M LOOKING FOR ETRIGAN. I'LL LET MYSELF IN.
I'M WORRIED, JASON. I THOUGHT THIS WAS A LARK--
--BUT IT'S STARTING TO LOOK LIKE ETRIGAN CAN WIN!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS, GLENDA. HE'S NOT EVEN A U.S. CITIZEN. HE CAN'T BE ELECTED!
20

I KNOW, BUT ETRIGAN WOULDN'T BE WASTING TIME WITH THIS IF HE DIDN'T HAVE SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE.
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
BUT WHAT CAN HE PULL WITH THE ENTIRE MEDIA FOLLOWING HIS EVERY MOVE?
BESIDES, EVEN YOU MUST ADMIT THIS CAMPAIGN IS GETTING INTERESTING.
SO, GONE, GONE, OH FORM OF MAN. ARISE THE DEMON, ETRIGAN!

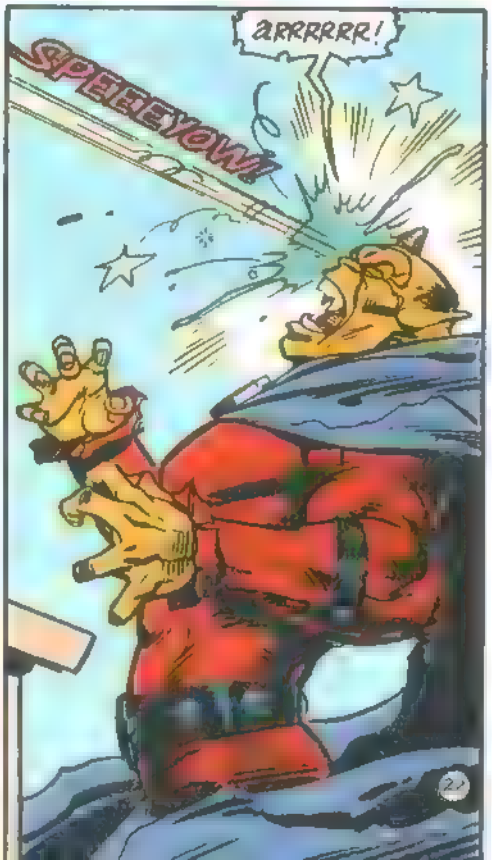

LATER...
AMERICA RULES
HOW'S EVERYBODY DOING TODAY?
ETRIGAN
AMERICA RULES
ETRIGAN FOR PREZ
DEMON FIRST
GIVE 'EM HELL ETRIGAN
DEMON FIRST


I'M PROUD TO INTRODUCE THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES--
RULES

--ETRIGAN!!
OUR LEADERS UP IN WASHINGTON, THEY WON'T GIVE US OUR WAY--
DEMON '92

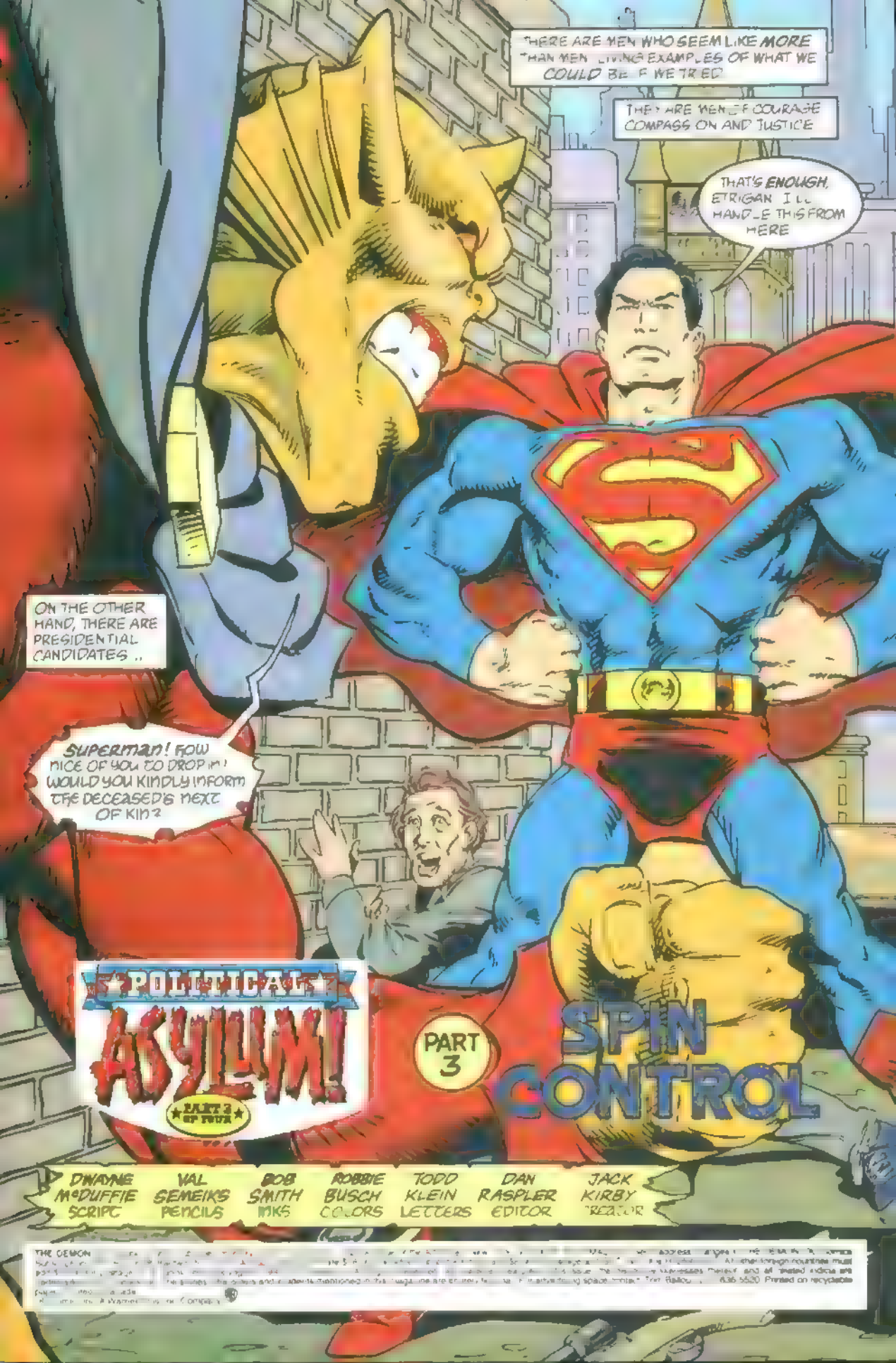
--BUT PUT ME IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND THEY'LL ALL HAVE HELL TO PAY!--

DIE, SPAWN OF SATAN!
BLAM!


ARRRRRR!
SPEEEYOW!

OH NO! ETRIGAN!
SOME CRAVEN SOUL HAS HURT ME! HE SHOT ME IN THE EYE!--
--WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON HIM HE'LL WISH I'D LET HIM DIE!
WITH RED-HOT SPIKES, HIS FLESH I'LL IMPALE! AND WHEN MEDIUM RARE, FEAST UPON HIS ENTRAILS!
I'LL TURN YOU INSIDE OUT! AND LAUGH AS YOU PITIFULLY SHOUT!
STAY BACK! I CAST YOU OUT! I CAST YOU OUT!!
WOOOSH!!
CAST ME OUT? I THINK NOT! I'LL--
I MAKE A POINT OF STAYING OUT OF POLITICS, ETRIGAN--

--BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU KILL THIS MAN
NEXT ETRIGAN BEGS TO DIFFER!


THERE ARE MEN WHO SEEM LIKE MORE THAN MEN LIVING EXAMPLES OF WHAT WE COULD BE IF WE TRIED
THEY ARE MEN OF COURAGE COMPASS ON AND JUSTICE
THAT'S ENOUGH, ETRIGAN I'LL HANDLE THIS FROM HERE
ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES ..
SUPERMAN! HOW NICE OF YOU TO DROP IN! WOULD YOU KINDLY INFORM THE DECEASED'S NEXT OF KIN?
POLITICAL ASYLUM!
PART 3 OF FOUR
PART 3
SPIN CONTROL
DWAYNE McDUFFIE SCRIPT
VAL SEMEIKS PENCILS
BOB SMITH INKS
ROBBIE BUSCH COLORS
TODD KLEIN LETTERS
DAN RASPLER EDITOR
JACK KIRBY CREATOR

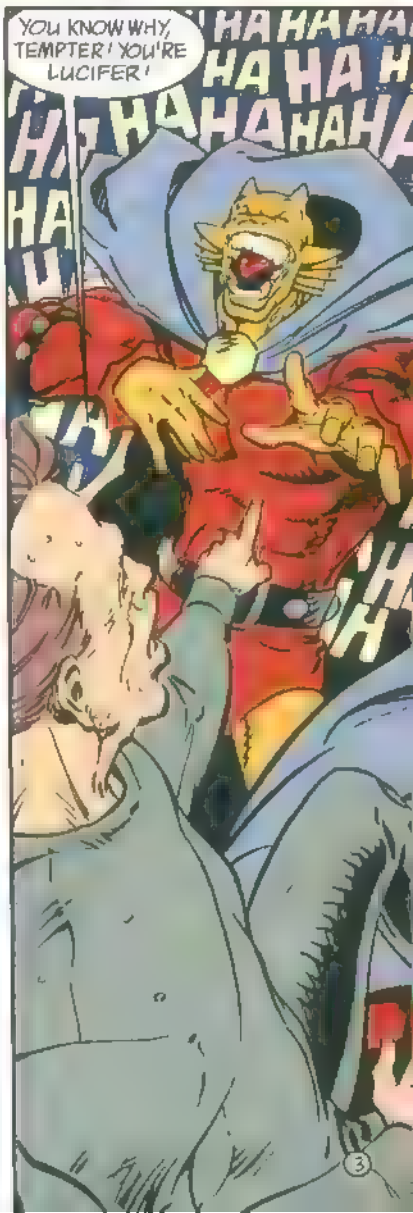
HE'S HARMLESS NOW LEAVE HIS PUNISH MENT TO THE AUTHORITIES
OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME...
VERY WELL BY THE AUTHORITY I VEST IN ME, HIS PAINFUL DEATH I NOW GUARANTEE!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS
-YOU KNOW I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO HARM THIS MAN
THOUGH I CRAVE YOUR SUPPORT, AND SHOULD NOT RISK YOUR .RE YOU SHOULDN'T UPSET SOMEONE WHO CAN BREATHE F RE!
CALM DOWN THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN HURT ME WITH-
WHOOSH
ARRGH!

...MAGICAL FIRE! I GUESS HE COULD HURT ME

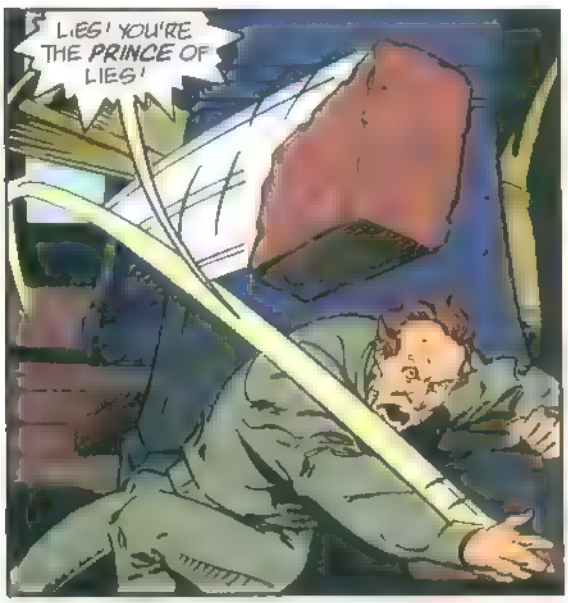
ETRIGAN'S FAST I WAS ONLY BLINDED FOR A SECOND OR TWO AND HE'S ALREADY GONE

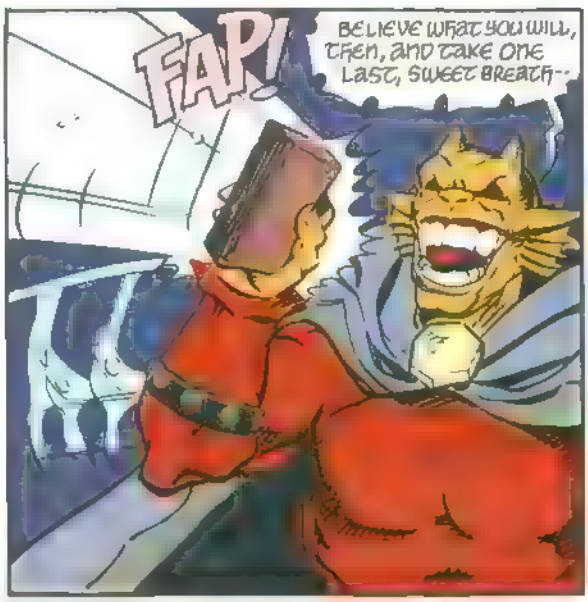
DESIST FROM YOUR STRUGGLES YOU CANNOT WIN FREE --

--NOW ANSWER MY QUESTION. WHY TRY TO KILL ME?
:WHOOF!:


YOU KNOW WHY, TEMPTER! YOU'RE LUCIFER!
HA HA HA
HA HA H
HAHAHAHA

IF IT'S LUCIFER YOU FEAR, THEN YOU'VE NO NEED TO FRET. FOR I am NOT LUCIFER, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE MET.


LIES! YOU'RE THE PRINCE OF LIES!


FAP!
BELIEVE WHAT YOU WILL, THEN, AND TAKE ONE LAST, SWEET BREATH--

THIS DISCUSSION'S NOW OVER AND IT ENDS WITH YOUR DEATH
KRUNCH!
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU K-KILL ME! THERE ARE THOUSANDS-- MILLIONS OF US, AND EVENTUALLY WE-WE'LL PUT AN END TO YOUR EVIL!

"MILLIONS"? INDEED? AND ALL FOLLOW YOUR CREED?

YES! AND WE WILL STOP YOU, DEMON!
ONE FINAL QUESTION, THEN I'LL RIP OUT YOUR THROAT ARE MOST OF THESE MILLIONS REGISTERED TO VOTE?
4

FOUND HIM I UNDERESTIMATED YOU ONCE, ETRIGAN--
--I WON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN.
KRAK!
SUPERMAN!
YOU LOOK NONE THE WORSE FOR WEAR LET'S GO, I'M SURE THE SECRET SERVICE WILL BE VERY INTERESTED IN CHATTING WITH YOU
SKRUNCH

A PUNCH IN THE JAW FROM THE MAN OF STEEL? A BLOW FROM THIS BELL WILL CREATE A PEAL
EH--?
ONLY IF I STAND HERE AND LET YOU HIT ME WITH IT, ETRIGAN--
--BUT, THANKS TO MY HEAT VISION, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WON'T HAVE TO ASK FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS!
SSSSSSSSSS
FIGHT ME WITH FIRE? A FOOLISH DECISION! WHAT HALFWIT RIDS DEMONS WITH BLASTS OF HEAT VIS--
TONGG
IF THERE WERE A PURPOSE, GREAT ANGER I'D FEIGN. IN ACTUAL TRUTH, THOUGH, I REALLY LIKE PAIN.

SO PAIN IS THE GIFT I'LL SHARE IN KIND--
NOW'S MY CHANCE!
BLAMM!
BLAM!
I'M TRYING TO TALK HERE, IF YOU DON'T MIND
PUT THAT GUN AWAY!
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, ETRIGAN STAY AWAY FROM HIM OR WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A REAL PROBLEM.
HMMMM I HAVE A SOLUTION THAT I THINK IS QUITE FAIR IN RETURN FOR YOUR ENDORSEMENT, HIS POOR LIFE I WILL SPARE
YOU WANT ME TO ENDORSE YOU FOR PRESIDENT?
SUPPORT FROM YOU WOULD GRANT ME RESPECT AND GUARANTEE IT'S ME THEY ELECT
SORRY, ETRIGAN I'VE NEVER TAKEN SIDES IN PUBLIC ELECTIONS. IT'S INAPPROPRIATE
7

WELL, YOU CAN'T SAY THAT I DIDN'T TRY. IF THERE'S NO DEAL, THEN THIS MAN WILL DIE.
HOLD IT!
OFF THE RECORD, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I THINK YOU'RE ONE OF THE WORST CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE I'VE EVER SEEN
IF YOU STAY OUT OF THE GAME, IT SUITS ME JUST FINE --
-- FOR IF GOOD MEN DO NOTHING, VICTORY WILL BE MINE!
SPOK!
WHOOOOOOOA!
FIRST, I'M GOING TO GET YOU AWAY FROM THIS GUY.
POOM!

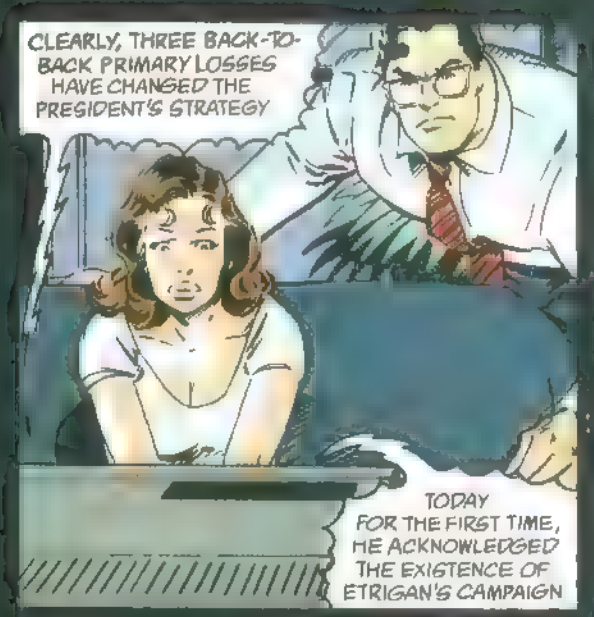
--AND THEN I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A CIVICS LESSON.
IN THIS COUNTRY, POWER FLOWS UPWARD FROM THE PEOPLE...
SMAK!
KROM!
I ALREADY KNOW YOU'RE UP TO NO GOOD WHEN THE PEOPLE DISCOVER THE TRUTH, THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU

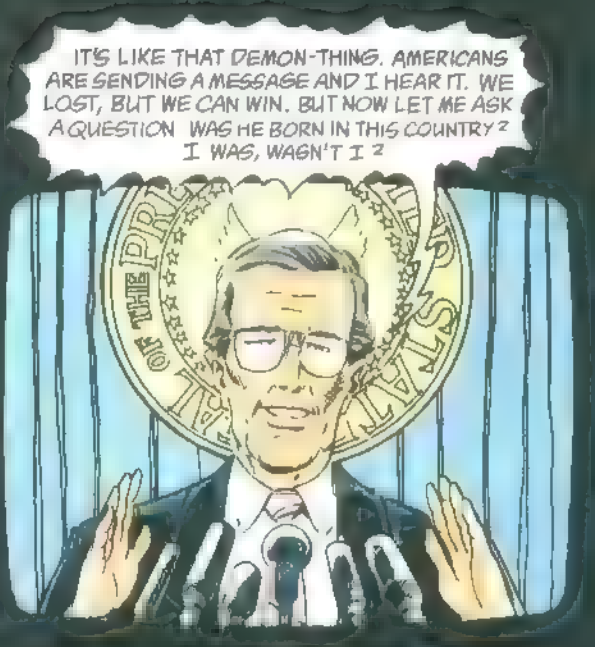
THE PEOPLE SPEAK NOW WITH ONE VOICE. AND I'M CLEARLY THOSE SAME PEOPLE'S CHOICE.
SO SPARE ME YOUR STANDOFFISH HYPOCRISY
SHOULD THE PEOPLE CHOOSE EVIL IT'S THEIRS-- THAT'S DEMOCRACY.
YOU.. YOU..
POW
DEMON!

KOOM

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE PEOPLE, ETRIGAN. THERE'S GOOD IN EVERY ONE OF THEM--
--WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, THEY'LL STOP YOU JUST AS EASILY AS I DID.
I HAVE TO HAND IT TO HIM, A GOOD FIGHTER AND STRONG WILLED
AS SOON AS I AM PRESIDENT I'M GOING TO HAVE HIM KILLED
12

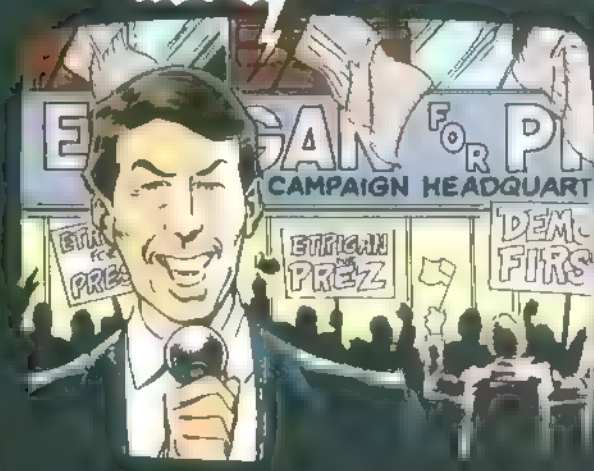
THERE IS JUBILATION HERE AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ETRIGAN FOR PRESIDENT CAMPAIGN
CAMPAIGN HEADQUART
ETRIGAN! PREZ
"CHARACTERIZED AS BOTH RACIST AND SOFT ON WELFARE, ETRIGAN CLAIMED HE WOULD INCREASE AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN PAYMENTS
"EXPLAINING THAT PROPER EDUCATION AND NUTRITION WAS CRUCIAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS 'FUTURE FOOT SOLDIERS' DID LITTLE TO SILENCE HIS CRITICS.
"BUT ETRIGAN'S RECENT CONFRONTATION WITH A MOB OF RACISTS HAS HELPED TO QUIET THOSE WHO ACCUSED HIM OF FASCIST TENDENCIES
"AND RECENT RUMORS THAT THE CANDIDATE IS CONSIDERING SUPERMAN AS A RUNNING-MATE PROPELLED ETRIGAN TO PRIMARY WINS IN THREE STATES."
SUPERMAN IS A TRUSTED ADVISOR TO THE CANDIDATE, AND A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND.
UH, CLARK? YOU BETTER GET IN HERE...
"CAMPAIGN OFFICIAL TED BARTON HAD THIS TO SAY..."


CLEARLY, THREE BACK-TO-BACK PRIMARY LOSSES HAVE CHANGED THE PRESIDENT'S STRATEGY
TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE EXISTENCE OF ETRIGAN'S CAMPAIGN

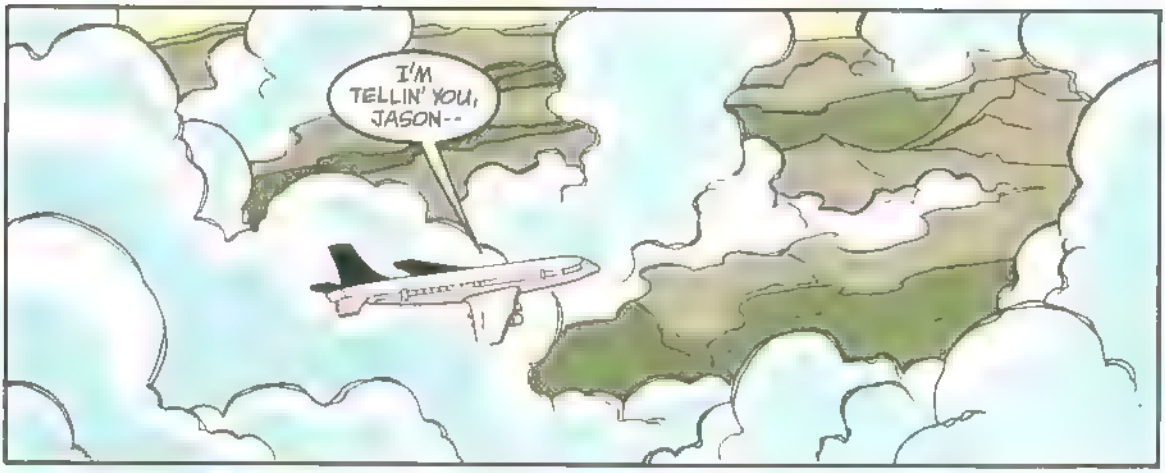

IT'S LIKE THAT DEMON-THING. AMERICANS ARE SENDING A MESSAGE AND I HEAR IT. WE LOST, BUT WE CAN WIN. BUT NOW LET ME ASK A QUESTION WAS HE BORN IN THIS COUNTRY? I WAS, WASN'T I?

"THIS RAISES AN INTERESTING QUESTION IF ETRIGAN WAS NOT BORN IN THE UNITED STATES, THEN TECHNICALLY, HE IS NOT AN ELIGIBLE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT. ETRIGAN HAD THIS TO SAY.

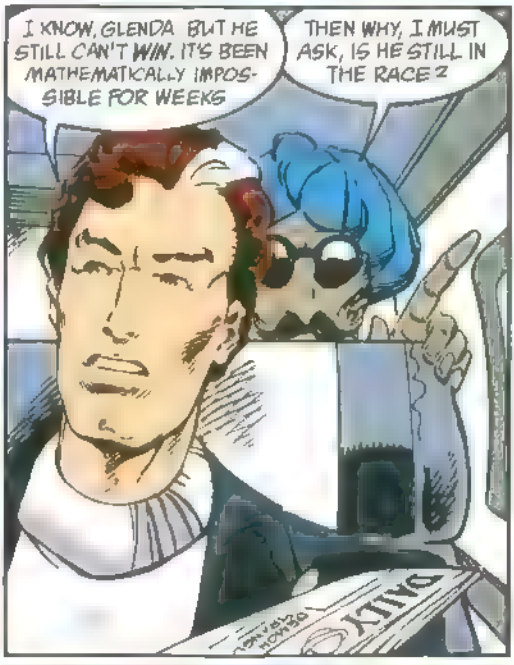
I WAS BORN DOWN BELOW, FAR BENEATH OLD METROPOLIS--
--SO IF I'M NOT A YANKEE, THEN WHO THE HELL IS?
DEMON FIRST

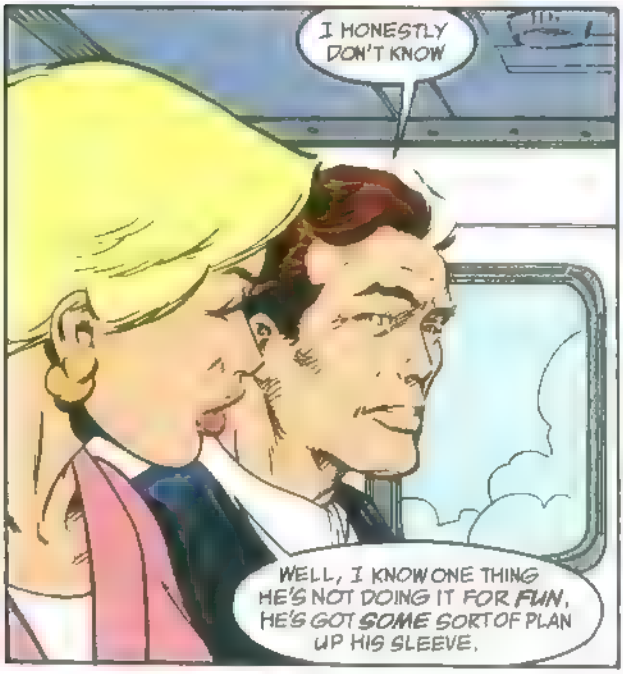

MAKES SENSE TO ME. THIS IS MARK FINLEY FOR CNN, IN METROPOLIS
CAMPAIGN HEADQUART
ETRIGAN PREZ

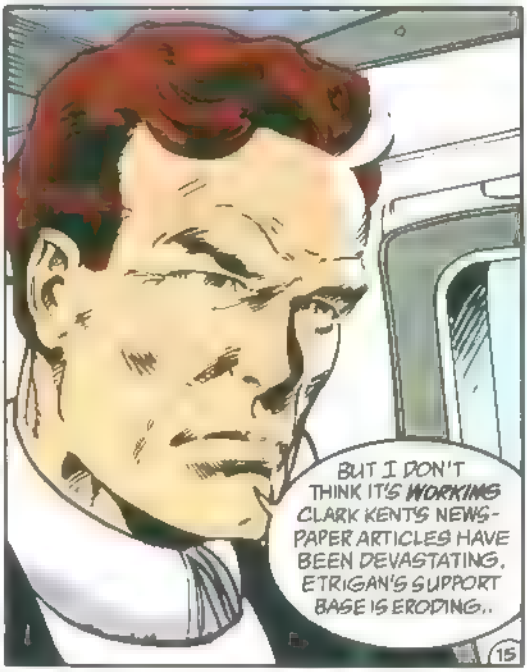
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, CLARK?
WHATEVER I CAN, LOIS WHATEVER I CAN


I'M TELLIN' YOU, JASON--

--THIS AIN'T FUNNY NO MORE.
HARRY'S RIGHT. THIS CAMPAIGN WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A LARK TO KEEP ETRIGAN OUT OF TROUBLE

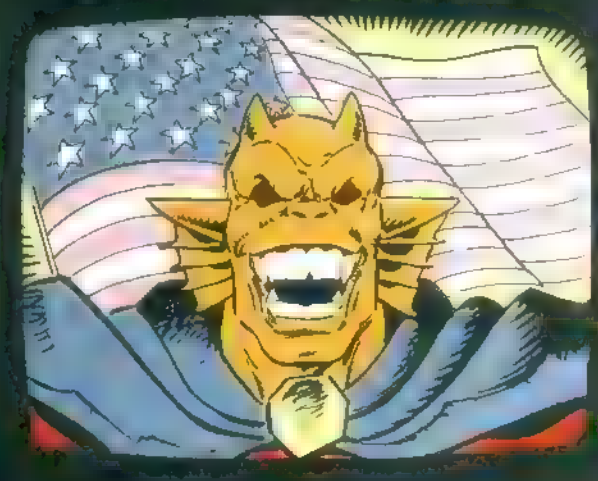

I KNOW, GLENDA BUT HE STILL CAN'T WIN. IT'S BEEN MATHEMATICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR WEEKS
THEN WHY, I MUST ASK, IS HE STILL IN THE RACE?
DAILY


I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW
WELL, I KNOW ONE THING HE'S NOT DOING IT FOR FUN, HE'S GOT SOME SORT OF PLAN UP HIS SLEEVE.


BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S WORKING. CLARK KENT'S NEWSPAPER ARTICLES HAVE BEEN DEVASTATING. ETRIGAN'S SUPPORT BASE IS ERODING..

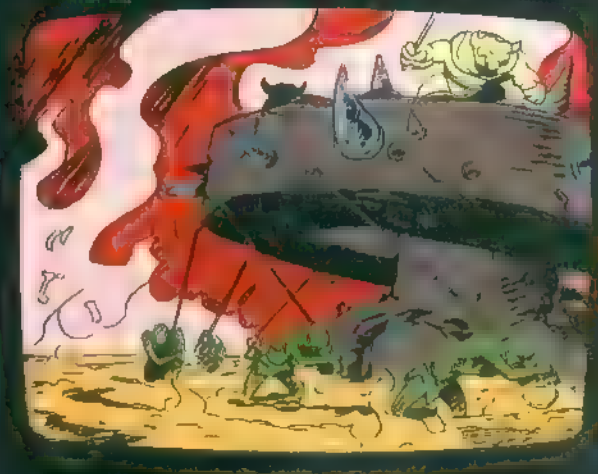
AND HE IS ALSO LESS THAN BELOVED BY THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT
CAN'T IMAGINE WHY.
MAYBE WE'RE JUST PARANOID BECAUSE WE'RE NOT USED TO SEEING HIM LOSE. ETRIGAN'S MADE MORE THAN ENOUGH ENEMIES TO KEEP HIM BUSY.
LET'S SIT BACK AND ENJOY IT.
"DO YOU REALLY WANT THIS COUNTRY TO GO TO HELL?"
"IF YOU DO, VOTE FOR ETRIGAN. HE WASN'T REALLY BORN IN AMERICA. HE'S A DEMON, AN AFFRONT TO THE VERY GOD WE ALL WORSHIP. AND WORST OF ALL, HE'S A LIBERAL."
"SO ON ELECTION DAY, VOTE FOR THE REAL AMERICAN"
BUSH
EMON
BECAUSE A VOTE FOR ETRIGAN IS A VOTE FOR ETERNAL DAMNATION. AND WHO WANTS THAT?
PAID FOR BY THE CITIZENS UNITED TO REELECT THE PRESIDENT

"SOME PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT ETRIGAN SHOULDN'T BE PRESIDENT, THAT HE'S UNQUALIFIED, THAT HE'S A ...LIBERAL."

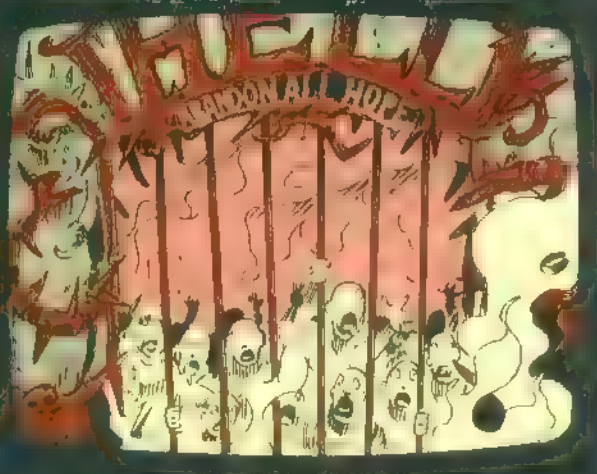


"LET'S LOOK AT THE *FACTS* WHILE ETRIGAN WAS GOVERNOR OF HELL..."

"...THERE WAS ZERO UNEMPLOYMENT, *NO* NEW TAXES..."

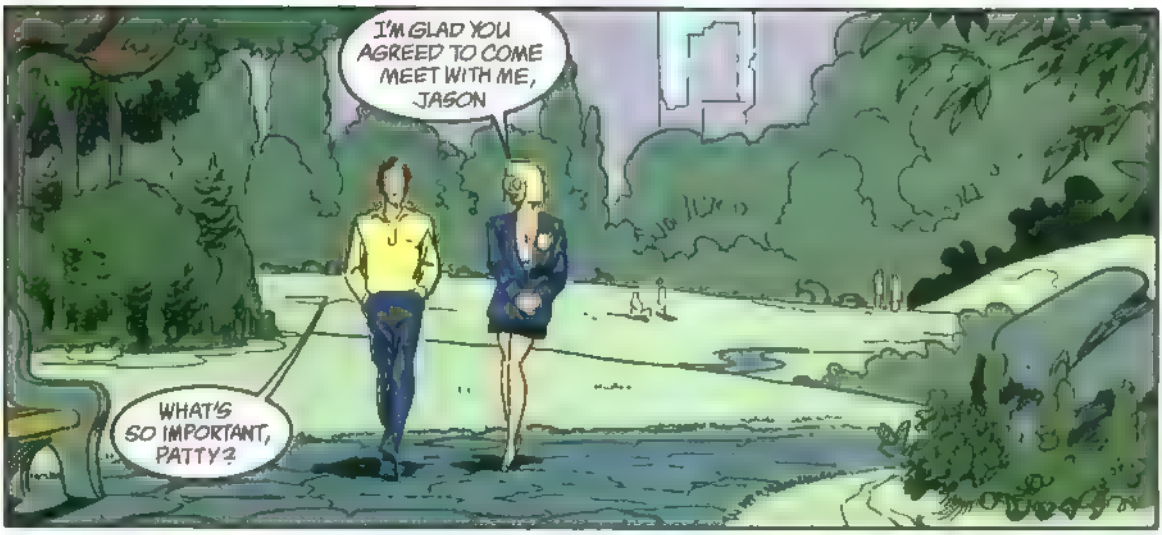


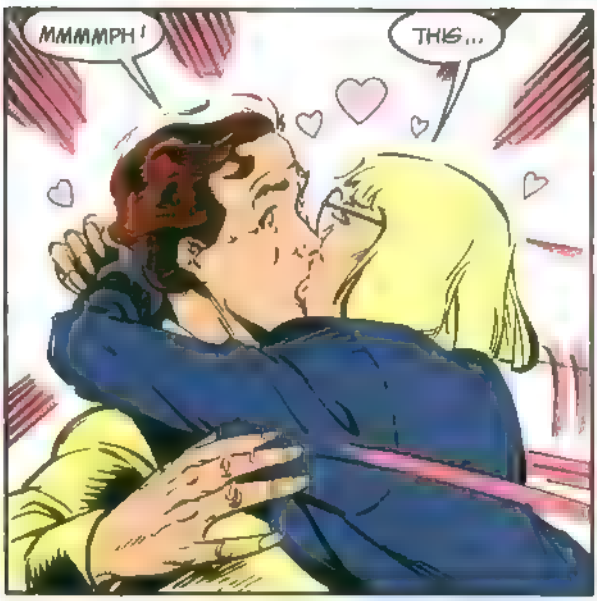
"...AND *NO* PRISONER FURLOUGH PROGRAM."

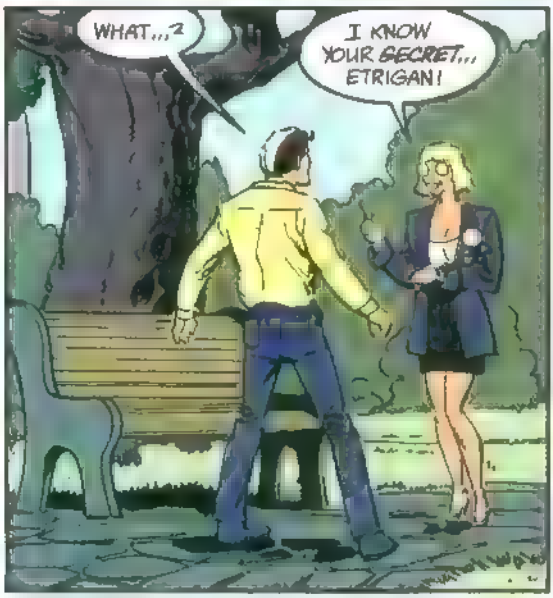


"SO VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATE WITH THE WILL TO MAKE US GREAT AGAIN."

PAID FOR BY THE
AMERICAN LEGACY INSTITUTE


I'M GLAD YOU AGREED TO COME MEET WITH ME, JASON
WHAT'S SO IMPORTANT, PATTY?


MMMMPH!
THIS...

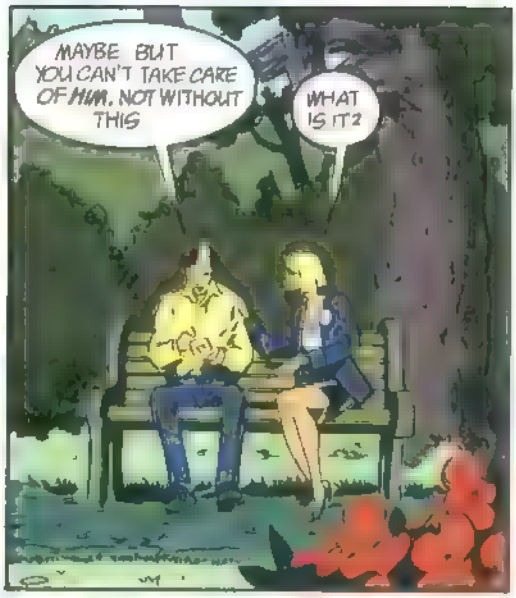

WHAT...?
I KNOW YOUR SECRET... ETRIGAN!

DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TELL A SOUL! AND ONCE YOU'RE PRESIDENT, WE'LL BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING!
PATTY, LISTEN...

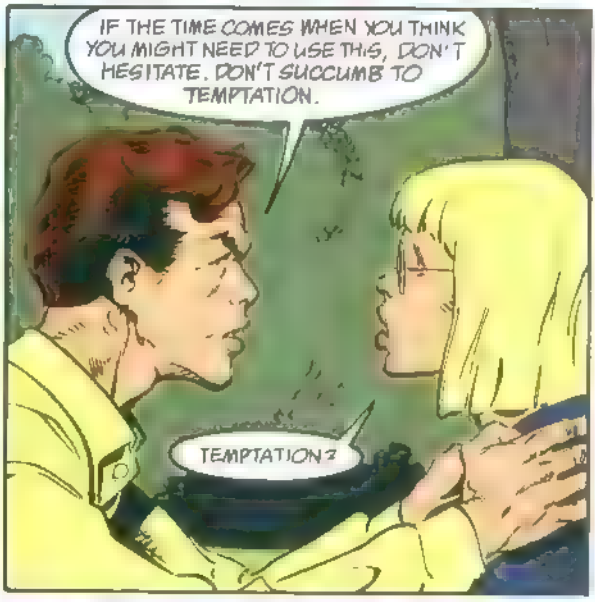
...FIRST OF ALL, I'M ALREADY INVOLVED, WITH SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL AND I WON'T BE MANIPULATED SO CRUDELY

AND IF YOU CAN'T MANIPULATE ME, I WOULDN'T EVEN CONSIDER TRYING TO USE ETRIGAN. IT'S A GAME YOU CAN'T WIN

YOU DON'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE DEALING WITH. ETRIGAN IS THE MOST DANGEROUS BEING ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.
AMERICA RULES!
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF


MAYBE BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE CARE OF HIM, NOT WITHOUT THIS
WHAT IS IT?

INSURANCE IF ETRIGAN WINS, I WANT SOMEONE TO HAVE SOME LEVERAGE ON HIM.
HE'LL BE READY FOR MY FRIENDS. I HOPE HE WON'T BE READY FOR YOU.


IF THE TIME COMES WHEN YOU THINK YOU MIGHT NEED TO USE THIS, DON'T HESITATE. DON'T SUCCUMB TO TEMPTATION.
TEMPTATION?

YOU TOLD ME ONCE THAT YOU GOT INVOLVED IN POLITICS TO HELP THE PEOPLE EXERCISE THEIR POWER
AS LONG AS THAT'S STILL MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU THAN PROTECTING YOUR OWN POWER, WE'RE STILL SAFE

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
IF WE'RE ALL VERY LUCKY, YOU WON'T HAVE TO.

GONE, GONE, OH FORM OF MAN
ARISE THE DEMON--
--ETRIGAN!
JASON BLOOD HAS BROKEN MY TRUST, AT LEAST THAT'S THE WAY THAT I FEEL.
BUT IF IT'S POWER THAT AROUSES YOUR LUST, THEN PERHAPS SHORTLY WE TWO CAN DEAL
HA HA HA

WORLD HEADQUARTERS, THE CHURCH OF THE TELEVANGELICAL VOICE...
REVEREND TARTUFFE, IT'S TRULY A PLEASURE
--VERILY AND FORSOOTH, YOUR GOOD COUNSEL I'D TREASURE
I'LL NOT SHAKE HANDS WITH YOU. AND IF YOU THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PIN THOSE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS ON THIS CHURCH--
YOU MISAPPREHEND, TIS NOT REVENGE THAT I PLAN. BUT HOLY REDEMPTION, IN THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB.
YOU WANT TO BE BAPTIZED?
SPEAK ON THE LEVEL IS IT REALLY SO ODD THAT THE SPAWN OF THE DEVIL SHOULD HAVE FAITH IN GOD?
N NO, BUT.
FOR MY SINS I WILL PAY BUT THERE'S ONE BOON I CRAVE COULD YOUR HEART FIND A WAY MY THRICE DAMNED SOUL TO SAVE?
WELL, IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR THE CHURCH, OPERATING COSTS BEING WHAT THEY ARE...
.BUT IF YOU INTEND TO DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE CHURCH, THE CHURCH IS GOING TO EXPECT CERTAIN THINGS FROM YOU UNDERSTAND?
I BELIEVE THAT I DO. A PRESIDENTIAL FAVOR OR TWO?

THE OFFER YOU MAKE SUITS ME JUST FINE BUT I CANNOT SCRATCH YOUR BACK, UNTIL YOU SCRATCH MINE.
IF YOU MARCH WITH US, MY SON. THEN WE SHALL MARCH WITH YOU
THREE DAYS LATER...
VOWS
FRIENDS, TODAY A MAN COMES BEFORE US SEEKING THE GRACE OF GOD..
CALL NOW
1-800-BE SAVED
I SEE A LIGHT
CHURCH OF THE T VANGELICAL
..HE IS A POWERFUL MAN, BUT HE STANDS HERE TODAY HUMBLED BY A GREATER POWER. ETRIGAN, DO YOU CONFESS YOUR SIN BEFORE THIS CONGREGATION?
I DO
WHOOaa!--
THEN I BAPTIZE YOU
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER--
aRRRRRRRf!
SPASH

YEARRGH!
--AND OF THE SON--
URRRRRGH!
--AND OF THE HOLY GHOST
SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
RISE, ETRIGAN! RISE INTO A NEW LIFE, BORN AGAIN, YOUR SINS WASHED AWAY!
I SAY THIS IN TRUTH: THANK YOU, REVEREND TARTUFFE
WITH YOUR AID AND SUPPORT, MY CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS.
THE WHITE HOUSE WILL SOON HAVE A NEW OFFICE HOLDER!

DAILY PLANET
THIS JUST CAME OFF THE WIRE, CLARK--
-- I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE IT.
ETRIGAN GOT AN ENDORSEMENT FROM THE ORGANIZATION OF TELEVANGELICAL CHURCHES!?!
I THOUGHT I COULD STOP HIM FROM THE SIDELINES
I THOUGHT MY ARTICLES WOULD BE ENOUGH--
CLARK?
PRESS ROOM
STOCK
WELL, I TRIED TO DO THINGS BY THE BOOK AND I OBVIOUSLY FAILED.
NOW I'VE GOT TO GET INVOLVED
NEXT
OUT OF CONTROL!

POLITICAL
ASYLUM!
CHAPTER 4
"OUT OF CONTROL"
THE WHITE HOUSE...
MR. PRESIDENT? THE ALLIED POWERS HAVE JUST FORMALLY SURRENDERED.
THE WORLD IS AT YOUR DISPOSAL, PRESIDENT ETRIGAN. FROM THIS DAY FORTH --
--AMERICA RULES!!
SO! LESS THAN ONE YEAR AFTER BEING ELECTED, THIS PLANET IS MINE. NOTHING LESS THAN EXPECTED!

Scanned by GOTHAN
For The HoCsA 2002 Halloween Event

DWAYNE McDUFFIE SCRIPT | VAL SEMEIKS PENCILLER | BOB SMITH + JOHN DELL INKERS | ROBBIE BUSCH COLORIST | TODD KLEIN LETTERER | DAN RASPLER EDITOR | JACK KIRBY CREATOR

THE DEMON 29. November, 1992. Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE DEMON, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate $21.00. Canadian subscribers must add $8.00 for postage and GST. GST # is R125921072. All other foreign countries must add $12.00 for postage. U.S. funds only. Copyright © 1992 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. For advertising space contact: Tom Ballou, (212) 636-5520. Printed on recyclable paper. Printed in Canada.
DC Comics Inc. A Warner Bros. Inc. Company

"I'VE CONQUERED THE EARTH, SO WHAT'S NEXT TO DO?"
BRAKKA BRAKKA
BRAKK
RAID THE LAND OF MY BIRTH AND RULE NOT ONE WORLD, BUT TWO!!
SKRUNCH!
--NOTHING WILL STOP ME, THOUGH HELL BAR MY WAY!
FINAL VICTORY, I'LL SEE. AND TODAY IS THE DAY--

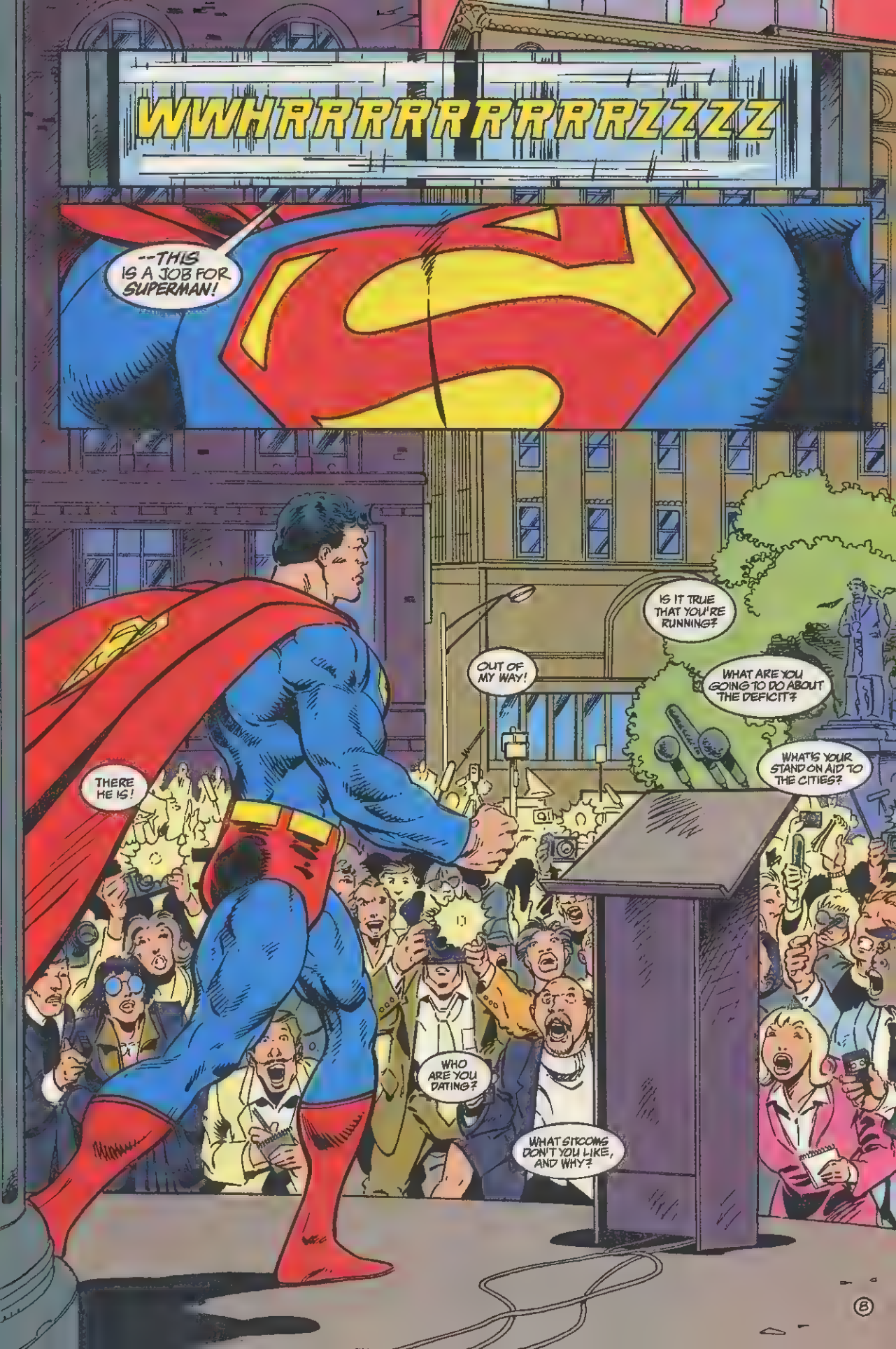
SHLOUK!
SO FELL TOO HAS FALLEN, TO THE STRENGTH OF MY WILL--
NOW I'M LORD OF THE VALLEY, I'M KING OF THE HILL!
STILL, I SHALL NOT TRULY HAVE CONTROL OF ALL THINGS--

--TILL I SOMEHOW USURP HIM WHO IS CALLED "KING OF KINGS"...
ST. PETER, IT'S YOU! AND THAT PLEASES ME GREATLY --
ETRIGAN?!
FOOM!
ARRRR!
SO TELL ME WHAT'S NEW. READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?
HELL'S ARMIES, AND EARTH'S, ALL NOW WORK AS ONE...

SO ON EARTH, HELL AND HEAVEN, LET MY WILL BE DONE!
BOOM!
BLAAM!
ARRGH!
AIEEE!
BRAKKA BRAKKA
WHAT'S THIS? HEAVEN STIRS: ANGELS PUT UP THEIR DUKES!
BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA
IF THEY'RE GOING TO RESIST, MAY AS WELL USE THE NUKES...
BAM!
ETRIGAN!

ETRIGAN!
Eh? My apologies, Glenda, my attention has wandered --
DEMON 1ST
ETRIGAN FOR PRESIDENT
-- to dreams of tomorrow. Still, it's YOUR time I've squandered.
NOT MY TIME, JASON'S. CHANGE BACK NOW, ETRIGAN. YOU'VE HAD A HALF HOUR EXTRA.
Very well. I'll speak the spell.
Gone, gone, O Etrigan. Rise once more in form of man.
JASON!
Fill me in, Glenda. What's he been doing?
6

FIRST HE LEADS THE PRESS TO BELIEVE THAT I'M A "CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND"--
CLARK.
--THEN HE STARTS A RUMOR THAT I'M GOING TO BE HIS RUNNING MATE!
I KNOW, CLARK, BUT...
AND ON THE BASIS OF THAT RUMOR, HE WINS FOUR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS.
BUT YOU'VE ALWAYS TRIED TO DISTANCE YOURSELF FROM POLITICS.
I KNOW, LOIS. BUT ETRIGAN'S TOO DANGEROUS TO ALLOW TO CONTINUE UNCHECKED. IF I DON'T GET INVOLVED, I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS.
I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, CLARK.
I DO, LOIS. IF EVER THERE WAS ONE--


WWHRRRRRRRRRRZZZZ
--THIS IS A JOB FOR SUPERMAN!
THERE HE IS!
OUT OF MY WAY!
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE RUNNING?
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THE DEFICIT?
WHAT'S YOUR STAND ON AID TO THE CITIES?
WHO ARE YOU DATING?
WHAT SITCOMS DON'T YOU LIKE, AND WHY?

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I HAVE A BRIEF STATEMENT.
RECENT REPORTS HAVE LINKED ME WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ETRIGAN. I WISH TO STATE UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT THESE REPORTS ARE UNTRUE.
MY POLITICAL BELIEFS ARE A PRIVATE MATTER, AND WILL REMAIN SO.
AS FOR ETRIGAN, HIS APPEAL IS AIMED AT WHAT IS LOWEST IN EACH OF US. SELDOM ARE THE DEMONS WHO VEX US SO OBVIOUS. USUALLY, IT TAKES CAREFUL STUDY TO REVEAL THEM.
I HAVE BEEN GIFTED WITH ENORMOUS POWERS THAT ALLOW ME TO HELP OTHERS. I CAN SAVE YOU FROM SUPER CRIMINALS --
9

--SOMETIMES I CAN SAVE YOU FROM NATURAL DISASTERS. WHAT I CANNOT DO IS SAVE YOU FROM YOURSELVES.
ONLY YOU POSSESS THAT POWER.
BUTTONS
DEMO 1ST
ETRIGAN IN 92
KLIK!
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE. TO HIS UNENDING SORROW. THE VOTERS ALL THINK I'M THE MAN OF TOMORROW.
ETRIGAN! I DIDN'T SEE YOU COME IN!
DON'T WASTE MY TIME GREETING--
--LET'S GET ON WITH THE MEETING.
MIKE HAD THE FLOOR.
THANK YOU, MR. DINGLE. THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION BEGINS TONIGHT. BUSH HAS IT IN A WALK. AT THIS POINT, WE HAVE THREE OPTIONS REMAINING TO US.

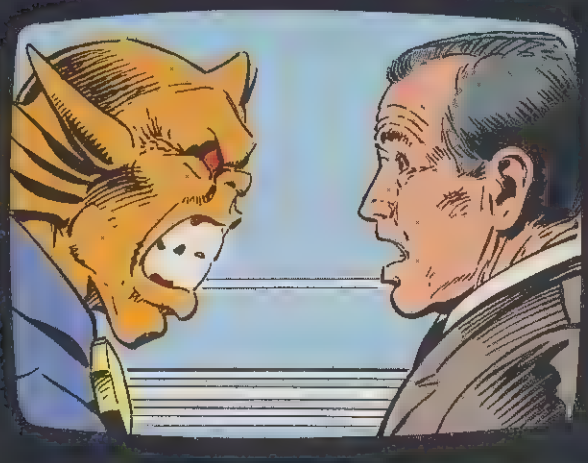
NUMBER ONE, WE PULL OUT OF THE REPUBLICAN RACE AND RUN AS INDEPENDENTS. PHIL THINKS THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR UNDER THAT SCENARIO IS TO PLAY SPOILER.
I'M OBSCENELY WEALTHY, BUT I'M HARDLY H. ROSS PEROT. OUT OF THE QUESTION.
NUMBER TWO: THIS IS A FIRM OFFER FROM A GROUP OF DEMOCRATIC POLICY-MAKERS AND SUPER-DELEGATES. THEY'VE OFFERED TO SUPPORT US IF WE SWITCH PARTIES.
ARE YOU KIDDING? IF YOU ASKED THE DEMOCRATS TO ORGANIZE A FIRING SQUAD, THEY'D FORM A CIRCLE...
WHICH LEAVES US WITH OUR FINAL OPTION, MR. DINGLE?
SOURCES... VERY CLOSE TO THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGN HAVE COMMUNICATED TO US THAT, IN ORDER TO AVOID THE EMBARRASSMENT OF A CONVENTION FIGHT, HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE OUR CANDIDATE ON AS HIS RUNNING MATE.
WHAT'S THE CATCH?
NO CATCH. ETRIGAN CAN DELIVER THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT, AND HE CAN ELIMINATE THE QUAYLE FACTOR. IT'S A GOOD DEAL FOR BUSH.
ETRIGAN RULES

IT'S NOT A GOOD DEAL FOR US. NO WAY WE SHOULD SETTLE FOR THE NUMBER TWO SPOT.
OF COURSE WE SHOULD, THE DEAL SOUNDS GOOD!
OKAY, IF YOU THROW YOUR SUPPORT TO BUSH IN YOUR SPEECH TOMORROW NIGHT, THE REPUBLICANS WILL DUMP DAN QUAYLE FROM THE TICKET--
--AND YOU'LL BE THE NEXT VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
AND IF, GOD FORBID, HARM SHOULD COME TO THE PRESIDENT--
--THEN THE OVAL OFFICE WILL HAVE A DEMON FOR ITS RESIDENT!
WHAT?!
12

THAT SOUNDED LIKE A THREAT!
DEMON 1ST
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD FINISH WRITING THE CANDIDATES SPEECH, MISS NONAGE...
HOUSTON, TEXAS. THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION...
...THANK YOU, BERNARD. AS YOU CAN SEE, THE SCENE IS PANDEMONIUM. WHAT SHOULD BE A VICTORY PARTY FOR GEORGE BUSH HAS INSTEAD TURNED INTO A BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF HIS POLITICAL PARTY.
VOTE 92
DEMON PRES '92
BUSH
BUSH QUAYLE 92
13

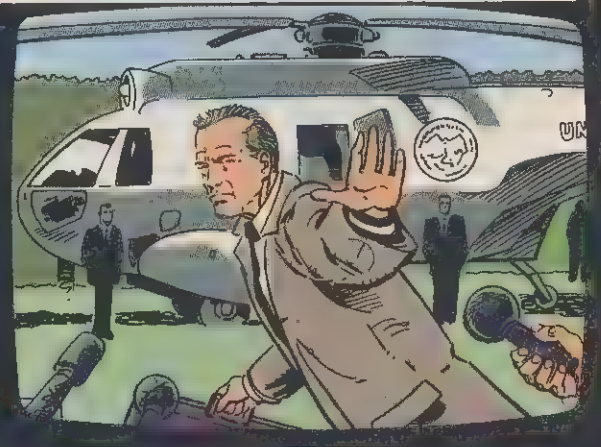
"THE CAUSE OF THE CONFLICT? STUBBORN RUMORS THAT ETRIGAN INTENDS TO CHALLENGE BUSH'S NOMINATION.

"THE RUMORS BEGAN TWO WEEKS AGO WHEN, DURING A TALK SHOW APPEARANCE, ETRIGAN REFUSED TO THROW HIS SUPPORT TO THE PRESIDENT.



"ADDING FUEL TO THE FIRE ARE ETRIGAN'S RECENT FLURRY OF TELEVISED APPEARANCES ON HIGH-PROFILE POLITICAL FORUMS INCLUDING 'THE McLAUGHLIN GROUP,' 'YO: MTV RAPS,' AND 'STUDS'.

"PERHAPS THE *MOST* UNUSUAL TURN OF EVENTS IS THE PRESIDENT'S SUDDEN UNWILLINGNESS TO CRITICIZE ETRIGAN. SOME ANALYSTS SAY HE IS TRYING TO REMAIN ABOVE THE FRAY, OTHERS HINT AT MORE INTERESTING MOTIVATIONS.



THE FUTURE, AS ALWAYS, REMAINS TO BE SEEN. MARK FINLEY, CNN, HOUSTON.

"SELECTION '92 WILL CONTINUE AFTER THESE MESSAGES FROM TAO CHEMICAL--"

--TAO CHEMICAL, WE'RE REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT BREAST IMPLANT THING...
OKAY, RANDU, IT'S PRETTY CLEAR THAT ETRIGAN'S ABOUT TO MAKE HIS MOVE.
ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT SO CLEAR PRECISELY WHAT THAT MOVE IS, FRIEND HARRY.
NO. BUT WHATEVER HIS PLAN IS, HE'S GOING TO TRY IT AT THE CONVENTION.
UNLESS WE STOP HIM.
I'M WILLING TO DO MY PART. YOU WANT TO HELP ME FILL OUT A VOTER REGISTRATION CARD, GLENDA?
NOT EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND, HARRY. I SAY WE FIND ETRIGAN AND SPEAK THE SPELL.
CHANGE HIM BACK TO JASON?
UH HUH. AND WE DON'T LET JASON CHANGE BACK UNTIL AFTER THE CONVENTION IS OVER.
RANDU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND ETRIGAN WITH HIS PSYCHIC POWERS.
THEN WE CAN AMBUSH ETRIGAN BEFORE HE EVEN KNOWS WHAT HIT HIM.
CAN YOU SENSE HIM, RANDU?

I SENSE THAT HE IS NEAR...
..VERY NEAR..
my EARS, AS THEY SAY, WERE BURNING, FROM YOUR TREACHERY, OF WHICH I'M NOW LEARNING
ETRIGAN!!
COME, COME, O' ETRIG--
--GLMPH!
SPEAK NOT A WORD, NOT EVEN A PEEP. IF YOUR VOICE IS HEARD, I'LL PUT YOU TO "BLEEP"
IN RESPECT TO FRIEND JASON, OF CHARACTER SO SEAMLESS, I'LL DEAL WITH YOU FAIRLY AND BE QUICK, IF NOT PAINLESS--
NNNN!
MMPH
HELMP!
16

"WE NOW RETURN TO 'SELECTION '92 : AMERICANS MAKE THEIR DECISION'..."
SELECTION92
AND THIS IS MARK FINLEY ON THE CONVENTION FLOOR, THE SITE OF ONE OF THE MOST VIOLENT ALTERCATIONS THIS REPORTER HAS EVER BEEN WITNESS TO.
VOTE '92
"THIS WAS THE SCENE ONLY MOMENTS AGO, AS BUSH AND ETRIGAN SUPPORTERS ENGAGED IN A FREE-FOR-ALL THAT BROUGHT NEW MEANING TO THE TERM 'FLOOR FIGHT.'
RE-ELECT BUSH
"THE POLICE, MOMENTARILY CONFUSED BY THE LACK OF MINORITY GROUP CONVENTIONERS TO BLAME THE SITUATION ON, QUICKLY DECIDED TO BEAT ON EVERYBODY."
IT WAS HORRIBLE, THEY WERE ACTING LIKE A BUNCH OF DEMOCRATS...
HPD
ALTHOUGH ORDER HAS BEEN RESTORED FOR THE MOMENT, ONE MUST WONDER IF IT WILL SURVIVE ETRIGAN'S SPEECH TO THE CONVENTION, LESS THAN A HALF HOUR FROM NOW.

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR YOUR SPEECH, ETRIGAN.

PATTY, MY SPEECHWRITER, YOU'VE SERVED ME QUITE WELL. UPON VICTORY, I'LL REWARD THEE, MY PLANS NOW ALL GEL.

TRIGAN FOR PRESIDENT

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS? I MEAN, REALLY?

MY PLANS ARE EXACTLY WHAT I'VE ALWAYS SAID: TO DESTROY ALL CREATION AND POSSESS THE GODHEAD.

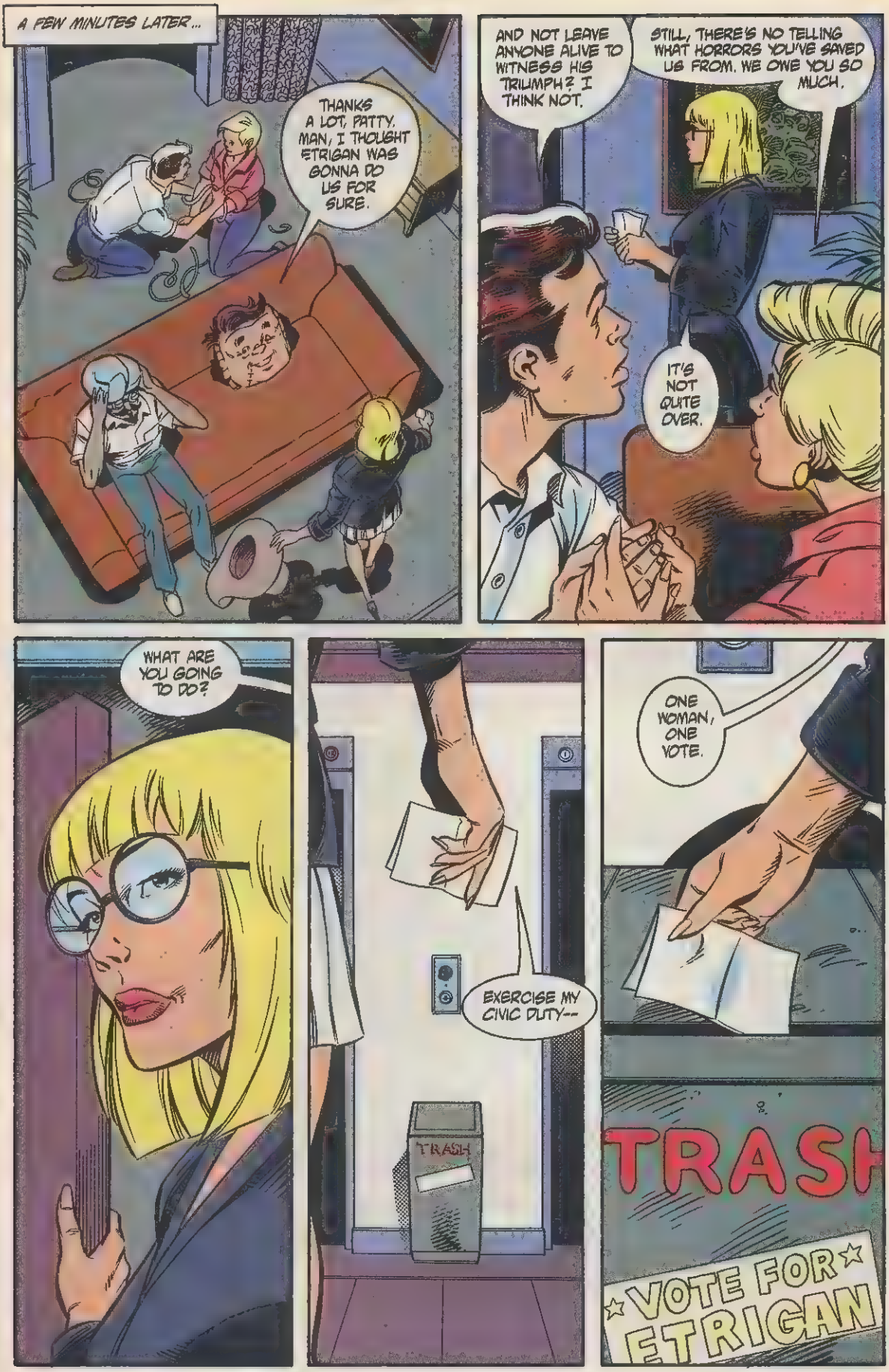
We The People

BUT YOU CAN'T, I MEAN YOU WOULDN'T...

I CAN AND I WILL. THIS VOW I'LL FULFILL.

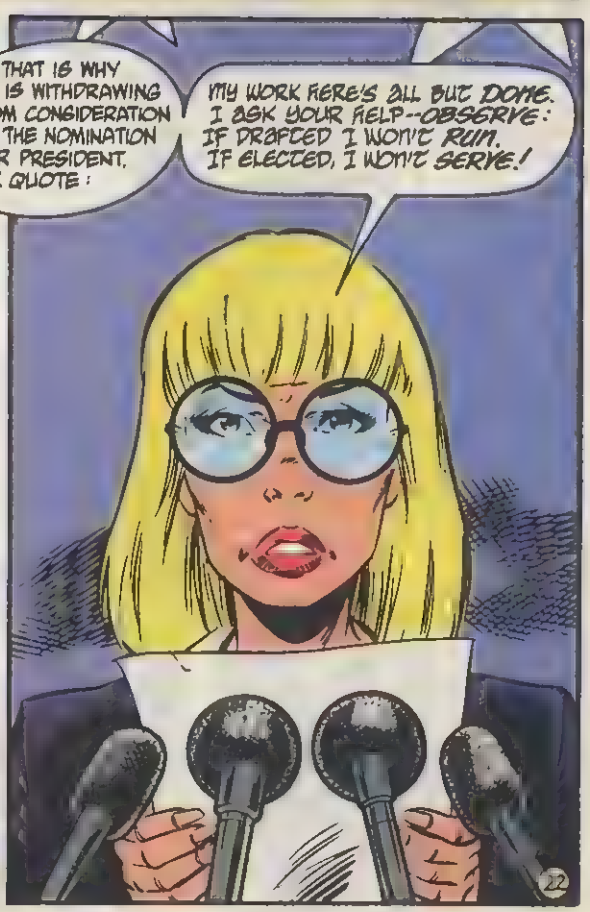
AND IF YOU SHOULD OFFER ME COMFORT AND AID, FOR YOUR EFFORTS I PROMISE, YOU'LL BE HANDSOMELY PAID.

I DON'T KNOW. I GUESS MY PRICE IS A LITTLE HIGHER THAN I'D THOUGHT.
PATTY, HOW VILE! HOW LOW, BASE AND SEEDY! OF COURSE I'LL NEGOTIATE, BUT LET'S NOT GET TOO GREEDY.
SORRY, B'TRIGAN, YOU CAN'T AFFORD ME ANYMORE.
YARVA DAEMONICUS ETRIGAN!
NOOOOO!
GONE, GONE, O' ETRIGAN--
--RISE ONCE MORE IN THE FORM OF MAN.
THANK YOU...


A FEW MINUTES LATER...
THANKS A LOT, PATTY. MAN, I THOUGHT ETRIGAN WAS GONNA DO US FOR SURE.
AND NOT LEAVE ANYONE ALIVE TO WITNESS HIS TRIUMPH? I THINK NOT.
STILL, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT HORRORS YOU'VE SAVED US FROM. WE OWE YOU SO MUCH.
IT'S NOT QUITE OVER.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
EXERCISE MY CIVIC DUTY--
TRASH
ONE WOMAN, ONE VOTE.
TRASH
VOTE FOR ETRIGAN

WE WANT ETRIGAN!
DEMON!
DEMON!
THE CONVENTION FLOOR...
CAN I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE?
WE WANT ETRIGAN!
GIVE US HELL!
GIVE HELL!
DEMON!
ET IN D.C.
ETRIGAN FOR PRESIDENT
RE ELECT BUSH

ETRIGAN HAS ASKED ME TO READ A BRIEF STATEMENT ON HIS BEHALF: WHILE HE APPRECIATES THE WARM SUPPORT HE'S RECEIVED THUS FAR, FOR THE GOOD OF AMERICA, WE MUST PULL TOGETHER AND ACT AS ONE.


THAT IS WHY HE IS WITHDRAWING FROM CONSIDERATION FOR THE NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT. I QUOTE:
MY WORK HERE'S ALL BUT DONE. I ASK YOUR HELP--OBSERVE: IF DRAFTED I WON'T RUN. IF ELECTED, I WON'T SERVE!
22

ETRIGAN FURTHER REQUESTS THAT HIS DELEGATES AND SUPPORTERS GO OVER TO PRESIDENT BUSH,--
BOO!
BOOO!
BOOO!
WHAT'RE YOU POUTING FOR, DANNY? YOU'RE BACK ON THE TICKET.
--AND THAT NO ATTEMPT BE MADE TO DRAFT HIM FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.
ETRIGAN FULLY ENDORSES THE REPUBLICAN NOMINEE FOR PRESIDENT. THIS CONCLUDES HIS STATEMENT.
NEWW
HOW'D I DO?
YOU WERE WONDERFUL. DINGLE ALMOST HAD A STROKE.
HOW COULD YOU TELL?
SERIOUSLY, PATTY. I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LET ETRIGAN OUT EVENTUALLY AND...
--AND I'D BETTER LIE LOW FOR A WHILE. I UNDERSTAND.
TELL GLENDA I SAID SHE'S A LUCKY WOMAN.
GOODBYE, PATTY.
23

EPILOGUE: NOVEMBER 4, 1992. SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA...
Etrigan took the whole thing a lot better than anyone expected. Lucky for me. Hiding from him was an exercise in futility.
TAP TAP TAK TAP
He found me with no trouble at all.
He called me a turncoat, a self-concerned, craven, untrustworthy traitor.
TAP TAPPITY TAP
But as it turns out, those are all qualities he admires.
So here I am, late into the evening on election day, writing my memoirs.
Political insider that I was, I don't even know who won the election. I haven't bothered to turn on the TV.
Not that it matters. At least I know who lost.
TAPPITY TAP TAP
24

MEANWHILE, IN METROPOLIS...
ETRIGAN?!--
DAILY PL
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THE ELECTION'S ENDED, EH? 'TIS A MELANCHOLY DAY. I'D HOPED THAT WE MIGHT SPEAK. IT'S YOUR COUNSEL THAT I SEEK.
YOU WANT MY ADVICE? LEARN YOUR LESSON FROM ALL THIS AND REALIZE THAT THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE CAN'T BE SUBVERTED YOU LOST, YOUR KIND WILL ALWAYS LOSE.
RUNNING FOR OFFICE IS HARDLY A CRIME, AND "ALWAYS" MY FRIEND, IS A VERY LONG TIME
I OFFER THIS TIDBIT, TO ADD TO YOUR FEARS: THE LESSONS I'VE LEARNED I'LL APPLY IN FOUR YEARS.
THE PROBLEM I POSE YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY FIX. I'M HERE TO SERVE NOTICE I'LL BE BACK IN '96!
HA HA HA
NEVER THE END..

DEATHSTROKE THE TERMINATOR

13
AUG 92

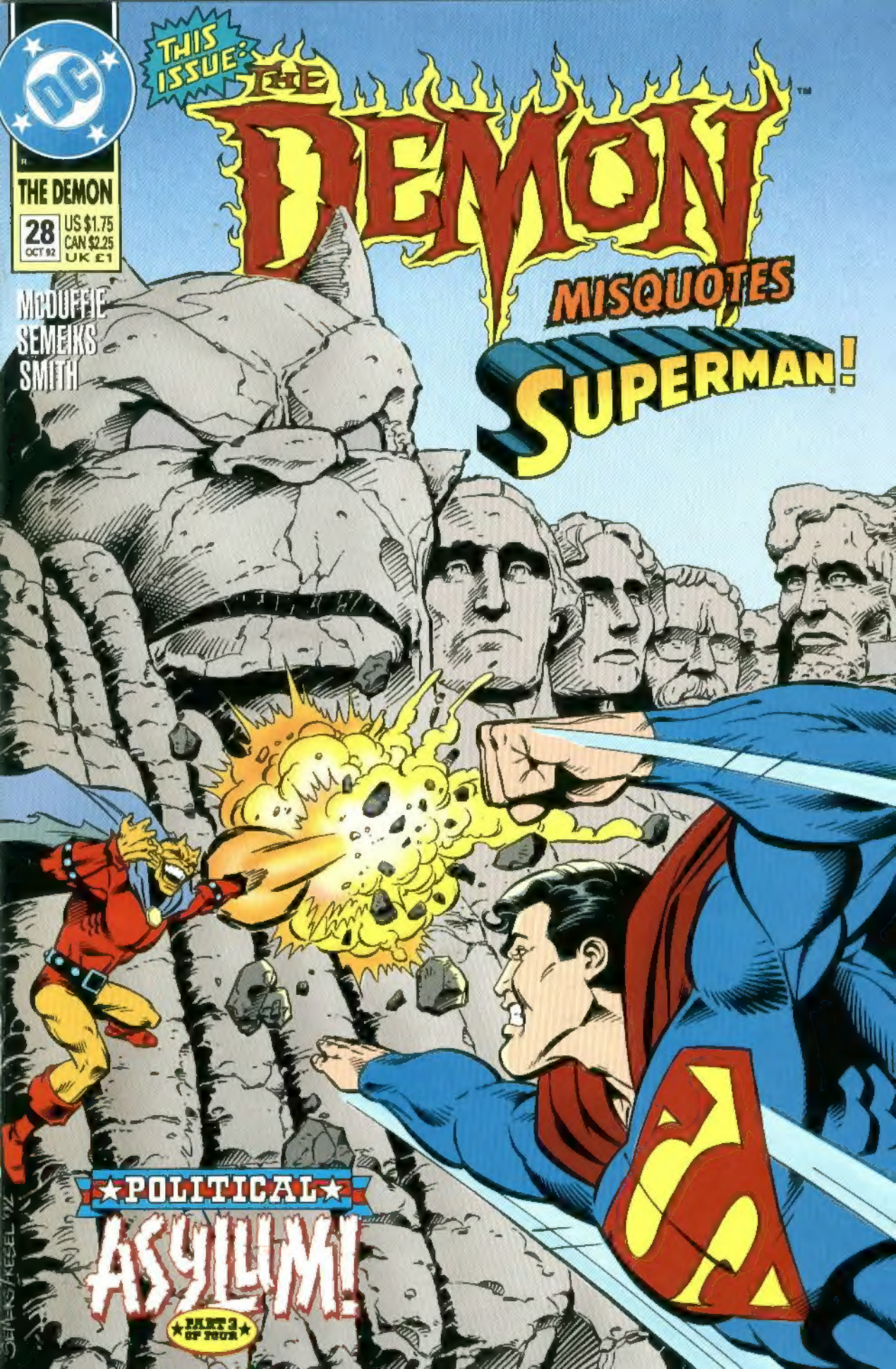
Deathstroke™ THE TERMINATOR VS. THE JUSTICE LEAGUE!™

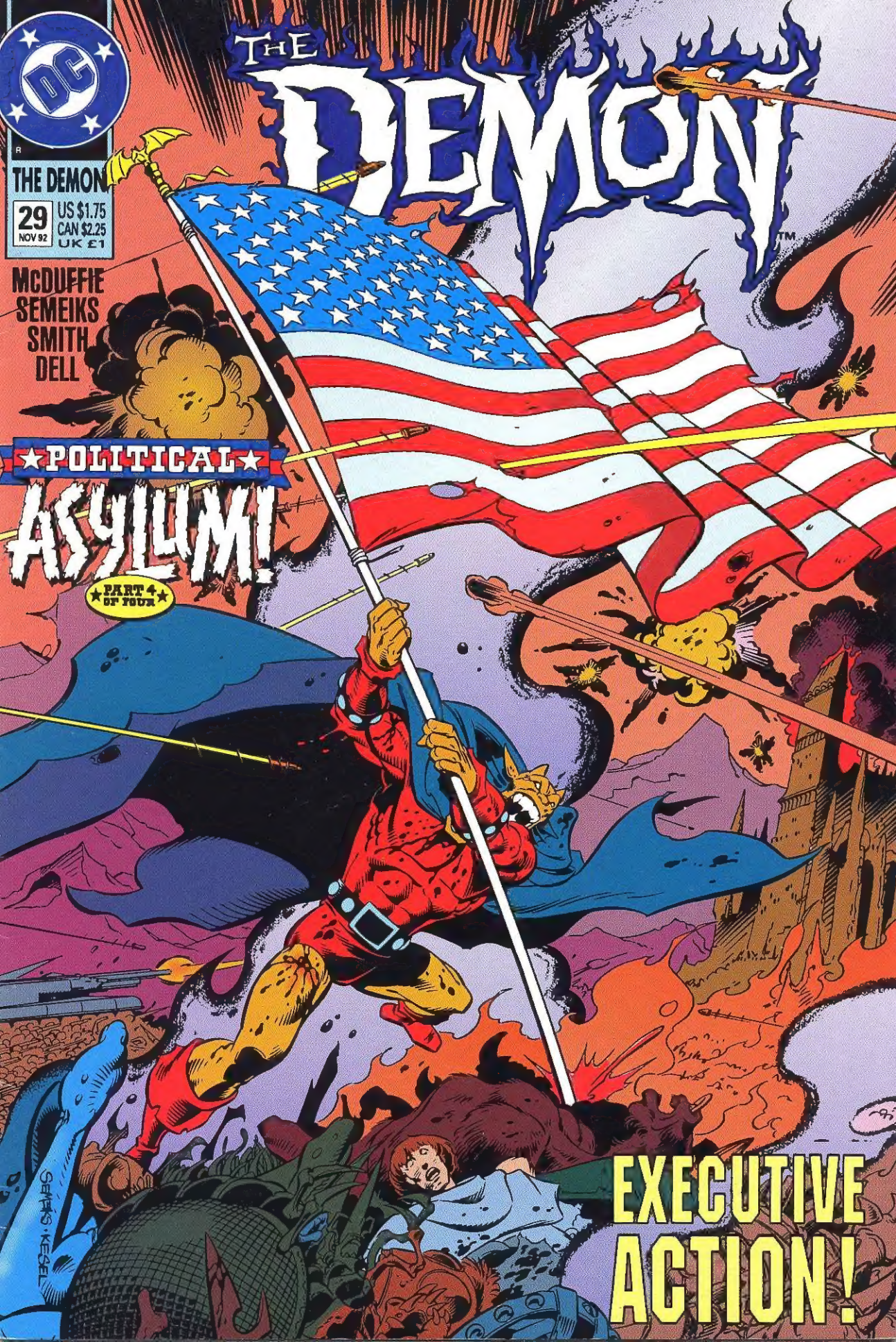
PLUS! A FIGHT WITH THE BATTLEWAGON CALLED HEMP!™

TEAM TITANS™ IS COMING!

WOLFMAN, ERWIN & BLYBERG

THE DEMON
27
SEP 92
US $1.50
CAN $1.85
UK £1
THE
DEMON
McDUFFIE
SEMEIKS
SMITH
VOTE FOR ME
POLITICAL
ASYLUM!
PART 2 OF FOUR
SEMEIKS & KESEL SIGN CO. '92


THIS ISSUE:
THE DEMON
MISQUOTES SUPERMAN!
THE DEMON
28
OCT 92
US $1.75
CAN $2.25
UK £1
McDUFFIE
SEMEIKS
SMITH
POLITICAL ASYLUM!
PART 2 OF FOUR


THE DEMON
29
NOV 92
US $1.75
CAN $2.25
UK £1
McDUFFIE
SEMEIKS
SMITH
DELL
THE DEMON
POLITICAL
ASYLUM!
PART 4 OF FOUR
EXECUTIVE
ACTION!